



BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

THE GIFT OF

CHARLES WILLIAM WENDTE
OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The Monthly Register

of the

Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

VOLUME II.

NOVEMBER 15, 1880, TO OCTOBER 15, 1881.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.
PUBLISHED AT THE SOCIETY'S CENTRAL OFFICE,
1602 CHESTNUT STREET.
1881.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHILOSOPHY

PHILOSOPHY

VOLUME II

1900

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

INDEX.

A

Afternoon Conference.....III-1
 Alms Giving.....III-6
 " " Something Better Than.....XII-1
 Almshouse, The County.....VII-7
 American Social Science Association.....XII-2
 Annual Meeting.....II-2
 Assembly, Meetings of.....I-3, II-2, IV-3, V-5,
 VI-4, VII-4, VIII-4, IX-3, IX-5, XIII-4

B

Babies, The.....VI-6
 Bedford Street Mission.....IX-8
 Belair, Mrs. L.....IX-3
 Benevolence, Misplaced.....XIII-8
 Boston Associated Charities.....II-6, VIII-7, IX-7,
 X-8, XI-7, XII-2, XIII-8
 Boston Wayfarers' Lodge.....X-10
 " Cases.....XII-10
 British Charity Organization Society.....XII-2
 Brooklyn Bureau of Charities.....VII-2
 Buffalo Charity Organization.....IX-7, X-8, XIII-6
 " City Out-Door Relief.....IX-7
 " Polish Emigrants in.....X-12
 Building Associations.....XIII-7
 Butler, Judge, William, Address of.....III-6

C

Care of Improvident Poor.....III-7
 Careful Investigation.....VI-7
 Cases.....I-8, II-8, IV-10, V-8, VII-10, IX-8,
 X-12, XI-8, XII-10, XIII-8
 Charity Organization, What it is.....II-1
 " Organized, Exposed.....V-2
 " Co-operation.....III-1, IV-1
 " Wisdom in Administering.....III-9
 " Systematic.....IV-1
 " Organization Extended.....VIII-2
 " Ministerial View of.....X-6
 " vs. Gifts.....XI-8
 Charitable Relief, General.....V-1
 Charities, Boston Associated.....II-6
 " Effete.....X-5
 Child-saving Work.....II-3
 Children's Reformatories.....II-2
 " Aid Society of New York.....VI-7
 " Country Week.....IX-3
 Children, Assembly Committee on.....V-7
 " Emigrating to West.....VII-9
 " Means of Diminishing Mortality of.....IX-6
 " Pauper.....IV-10
 " Dependent.....V-2
 Church, the Roman.....X-6
 Churches, Co-operation with.....VI-1
 Cincinnati Associated Societies.....X-9
 Cleveland Society.....V-7
 Coates, Miss Beulah.....V-5
 Coffee Taverns.....IV-8
 Coffee House for Working Men.....VIII-8
 Cold Pieces.....VIII-4
 Committees.....IV-3
 Compulsory Education.....VI-5
 Conference, Women's.....I-2, II-2, V-3 & 4,
 VI-3, VII-3, VIII-3, IX-6
 " Evening.....III-6
 " Afternoon.....III-1
 Conference of Charities.....IX-6, X-1, 2, XI-4
 Co-operation Societies.....IV-8
 Co-operative Charity, Its Economy, &c.....III-1
 " III-1, 2, 3, 4, X-1, XIII-1
 Correspondence.....I-7; (P. C. Garrett,) II-5;
 (J. S. Lowell,) IV-8; X-10; (Bp. Stevens,) XII-10; XIII-6
 Corresponding Societies.....I-7, II-6, IV-8,
 V-7, VI-7, VII-6, VIII-6, IX-7, X-8
 Correction, House of.....II-5
 County Almshouse.....VII-7

D

Dangerous Classes of New York.....VII-10
 Dependent Children.....III-2, X-11
 Directors, Meetings of.....I-2, II-2, IV-3,
 V-3, VI-3, VII-3, VIII-2, IX-3, X-7, XI-4
 Dispensary, Legal.....VI-1
 Duties of Directors and Trustees.....XII-10

E

Education, Industrial.....V-1, VI-6, VII-2, XIII-7
 " Compulsory.....VI-5
 Effete Charities.....X-5
 Effective Charity.....XIII-2
 Emigrating Children.....VII-9
 English Casual Wards.....X-10
 Evening Conference.....III-6

F

Facts and Deductions.....IX-2
 Family vs. Institutions.....VII-10
 Fitch Creche of Buffalo.....V-7
 Foreign Charity Items.....X-11, XII-10
 Foundlings.....XI-1
 Friends, To our.....VII-2

G

General Charitable Relief.....V-2
 Gifts vs. Charity.....XII-8
 Good Shepherd, Hospital of.....VII-10

H

Health Hints for Poor.....X-2
 Hill, Octavia.....III-6
 Hints, General.....II-8
 Hodge, H. Lenox, Death of.....IX-2
 House of Correction.....II-5
 Hughes Thomas, Address of.....I-1, 6, II-6

I

Improvidence and its Remedies.....XIII-2
 Independence, True.....IV-10
 Indianapolis, Charity Organization of.....II-7,
 VII-6, VIII-6, XI-7
 Industrial Training School.....IV-9
 " Schools.....XIII-8
 " Education.....V-1, VII-2, 4; VIII-2,
 XIII-7
 Intemperance.....VIII-5, 8; IX-3
 Investigation, Careful.....VI-7
 " of Isolated Societies.....IV-1

L

Labor for Relief Askers.....IV-2
 Laundry.....VIII-6
 Legal Relief.....VII-9
 Legal Dispensary.....VI-1
 Letters Begging.....VII-2
 Library, Our.....I-1
 Loans.....I-4, 5
 London Organization Society.....I-6, XI-8, XII-3
 " A Philadelphian in.....X-7
 " A Picture of.....XIII-8

M

Mayor and Police, Co-operation With.....VIII-3
 Means of Promoting Provident Habits.....I-3
 Medical Charities.....IX-5
 Mendicity Dodges.....VII-10
 Ministerial View of Organized Charity.....X-6
 Misplaced Benevolence.....XIII-8
 Money, What Need of.....IX-2
 Mortifications.....XII-1

N

National Conference of Charities.....X-2
 New York Charity Organization.....V-8
 " Children's Aid Society.....VI-7
 " State Reformatory.....VII-3
 " Dangerous Classes of.....VII-10
 " Guardians of Poor of.....XII-8
 Newport Charity Organization.....VI-7, X-9
 New Haven Board of Charities.....VIII-7, X-9
 Notable Pauper.....II-7
 Notes.....I-8, II-7, IV-10, VI-8, VII-10,
 VIII-8, IX-8, X-11, XI-8, XIII-7
 Nurses, American Schools for.....II-5

O

Opinions of the Press.....II-7
 Organized Charity and Out-Door Relief.....II-7
 " Possibilities of.....IV-7
 " Exposed.....V-2
 " Ministerial View of.....X-6
 " and the Roman Church.....X-6
 Out-Door Relief in United States.....XII-9

P

Paine, Robert Treat.....III-6
 Pauper, A Notable.....II-7
 Pauperism, its Causes and Cure.....X-3
 " Relations to Intemperance.....VIII-6
 " and Vagrancy.....XII-7
 Pauper Children.....IV-10
 Peabody Donation Fund.....VII-7
 Penal and Reformatory Institutions.....II-3
 " Measures.....IV-8
 Penny Savings.....XI-2
 Penny Savings' Banks.....XI-3
 Plan for Interesting the People.....IV-6
 Police, Co-operation of.....VII-2, VIII-3
 Polish Emigrants in Buffalo.....X-12
 Poor, Care of the Improvident.....III-7
 Postal Savings' Banks.....XI-3
 Possibilities of Organized Charity.....IV-7
 Press, Opinions of.....II-7
 Provident Habits.....I-3
 " Methods.....IV-6
 Public Poor Relief.....X-11

R

Register, The.....I-2
 Reformatory Needed.....VII-8
 Relief, Out-Door.....II-7, IX-7, XII-8
 " Askers for.....IV-2
 " Legal.....VII-9
 " of Public Poor.....X-12
 Roman Church.....X-5
 Royal Utterance.....XI-3

S

Sanitary Precautions.....XIII-7
 Schools, Industrial.....IV-8, XIII-8
 Sick, Training Nurses for.....I-7
 Social Science in Law of Moses.....VI-2
 Social Science Association.....XII-2
 Societies, Corresponding.....I-7, II-6, IV-8,
 V-7, VI-7, VII-6, X-6I
 Societies, Isolated.....IV-1
 Society, the, its Work.....I-2, II-2, V-3,
 VI-3, VII-3, X-9
 Soup Houses.....XIII-6
 Street Begging.....VIII-1
 Street Cleaning.....VII-2
 Summer Charity.....VII-1
 Systematic Charity.....IV-1

T

Taunton Associated Charities.....IX-8
 Thrift.....VIII-8
 Training Schools.....II-4
 Training Nurses for Sick.....I-7
 Tump Population.....II-4
 True Independence.....IV-10

U

Uncharitable Charity.....V-2

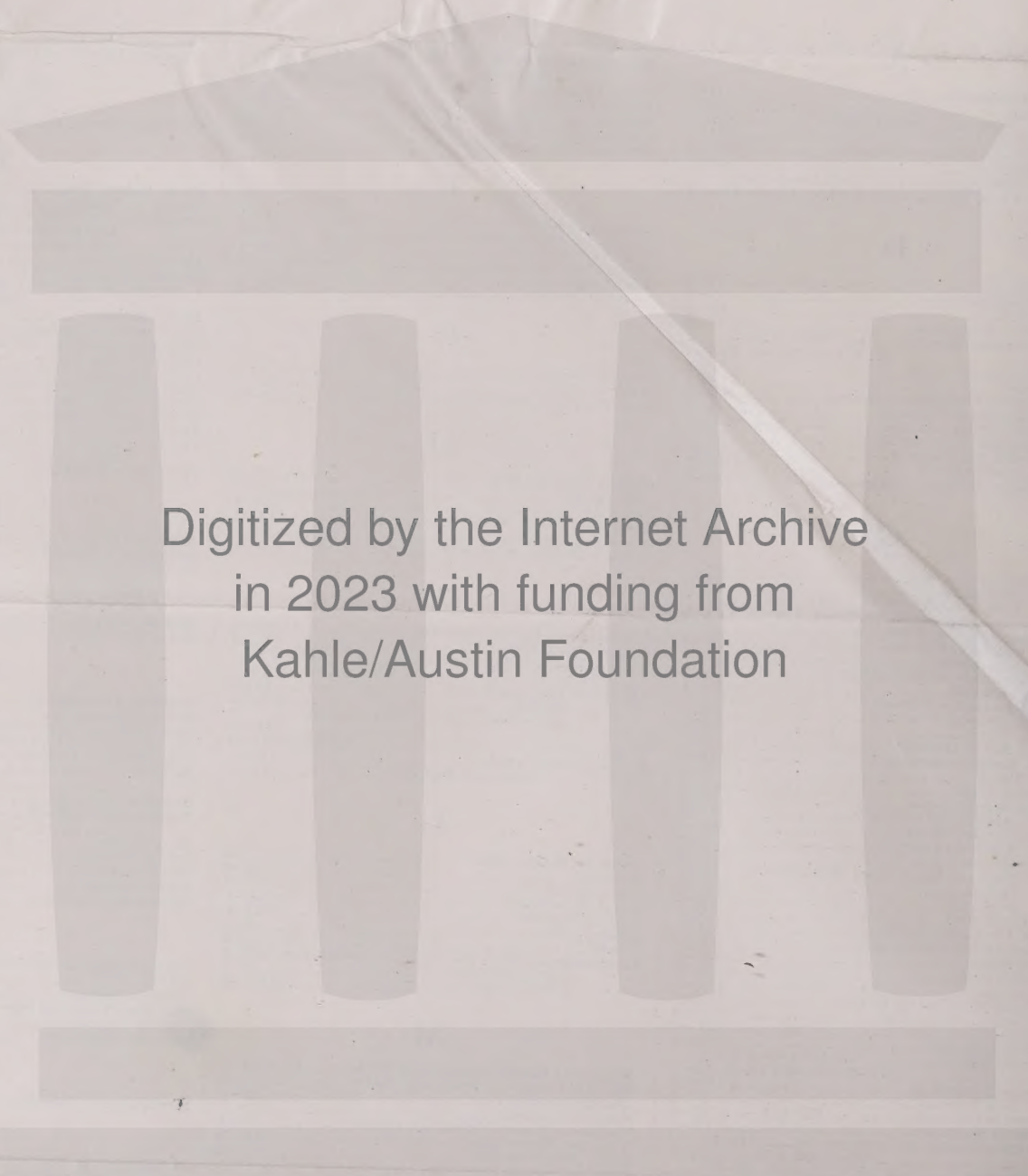
V

Vagrant Children.....IV-4
 Value of Co-operation.....IV-8
 Visitation and Women's Work.....IV-4, V-6

W

Wards, English Casual.....X-10
 Wayfarers' Lodge of Boston.....X-10
 Wichern, Dr., Death of.....X-12
 Wisdom in Administering Charity.....III-9
 Women, Work for.....VI-8
 Women's Conference.....I-2, IV-3, V-3, VI-3,
 VII-3, VIII-3, IX-8, XIII-3
 Wood Yard and Labor Test.....IV-1
 Work, the Society's.....IV-3, V-3, VII-3,
 VIII-2, XI-4, XIII-3

INDEX



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
Kahle/Austin Foundation

70
P 559 11-2

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 15, 1879.

[No. 1.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE CENTRAL BOARD, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of four persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

EDITORIAL.

SALUTATORY.

From the beginning of the Society for Organizing Charity in Philadelphia, the necessity was felt for a monthly periodical devoted to the discussion of charitable work. The daily newspapers of this city have done much for the movement by their hearty and unanimous support of its principles, and by their constant reports of our public meetings, to say nothing of the publication, in some instances, of our papers. But it is not to be expected that they should give space sufficient for the detailed discussion of charitable topics; nor does the insertion of one of our papers in any of them ensure its reaching the whole of that special public for which it is intended. Furthermore, the desire has been expressed that we should print our reports and papers in some form in which they could be preserved for future use.

During the first year of our Society, the want of a periodical was generally felt throughout the city. In spite of the existence of a Central Office and a Central Board, our local organizations have been too much isolated. They have not worked with the assurance that they were advancing in the same line with each other, and they have been led to suppose they were meeting especial difficulties in their own localities, while, in truth, these difficulties were common to all. It was from a Ward Association that the demand for a monthly paper came up to the Central Board, very soon after its organization.

The experience of other Societies is equally decided in favor of our having such a paper. The London Society has had one from the start. The Buffalo Society has begun one. The "New York Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor," has a very spirited and interesting monthly.

Our aims are: 1. To furnish a proper channel of communication between the Wards and the Central Board, between the Wards severally, and between the Ward Directors and their constituencies. The results reached in our general deliberations will be printed here, with sufficient extracts from reports, etc. The Ward Boards will have the opportunity of making known from time to time their condition and needs to the Society at large, and to their constituents in particular. A very large part of our space will be devoted to their work.

2. To bring to general notice approved suggestions for the improvement of our work. With such a large amount of intelligence employed upon the problem of charity, we will certainly receive in this shape much that is valuable. Already the reports read at our Ward Meetings are furnishing us with hints which may be of great value. And any one who has somewhat on such subjects to say worth saying, will find a welcome in our columns.

3. To put on record the work of the Charitable Societies of the city generally, so far as the knowledge of this reaches us. In the intention of our own Society, co-operation with all of these is earnestly desired.

4. To advertise those impostors whom we detect in preying upon the charitable sympathies of our citizens, whether under the pretense of benevolent work, or under that of personal need. Our city has its share of such characters, and the work done by the London Society in exposing them, needs to be undertaken here, of course,—with due prudence.

1879 C.W.W.M.D.H. 8

The arrangement of our monthly has been adopted for convenience of reprinting some part of its contents in tract form. The columns are of the width employed in our Society's papers and reports, and the length has been adopted with a view to a proper proportion in the size of the paper.

CHILDHOOD AND PHILADELPHIA CHARITIES.

The Care of Children.

Philadelphia has always prided herself on the number of her charities, and their excellent management. She has reason to be thus proud.

And yet in this day, when charity, like so many other branches of social science, has adopted the method of *comparison*, a study of what has been done or undertaken in other communities, suggests some very grave defects in our own system. Some of the best of our recent organizations took their origin from the suggestions furnished by other cities. Such, for instance, is the excellent "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children," which has done already a great and good work, and deserves to be abundantly supported by our benevolent people.

But all that needs to be done even for this special class, does not fall within the scope of that Society. For instance, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, following a good English precedent, has enacted laws to forbid the employment in mines, factories, and the like, of children under a certain age, and to limit such employment in the case of older children. But this law is practically a dead letter, because it did not copy yet another feature of the English law, and provide official inspectors for its enforcement. To enter the premises of one of our manufacturers in search of evidence of the violation of this law, would be practically impossible for any one but such an inspector. "No Admission Except on Business" is the rule in nearly all such establishments, and behind this rule the law-breakers would easily shelter themselves. Now this employment of children is a very serious evil. It deprives the child of all opportunities of education, except such as he may pick up in Sunday-Schools. It stunts his growth, undermines his health, condemns him to a sickly existence, increases the clan of involuntary paupers, and thus deprives the State of the services of its own citizens. It is making the children pass through the fires not to Moloch, but to Mammon.

In the absence of a law making education compulsory, for which our city may not be prepared, there is a rule enacted by the Board of Guardians, by which assistance may be denied to those who do not send their children to school. This rule, from some reason, good or bad, is not enforced. If the difficulty is one which can be overcome in any way, it should be, and these children should be at least submitted to the wholesome discipline of public school life, with its requirement of cleanliness and orderliness, and its elevating influences upon character. The existing body of school teachers in this city is one whose indirect influence upon the scholars has in multitudes of known instances proved most excellent. And when we have such an educational agency at hand, no seats on the school benches should be left empty. Let us have the rule enforced wherever it is practicable, gentlemen of the Board of Guardians, and let every charitable society in the city adopt it as its own.

The establishment of Free Kindergartens in Boston and New York has been more extensive than with us, but we are making a beginning in this direction also. Many poor people can give but scant attention to their children during working hours. A case is known to us where a family of three fine, promising boys have "gone to the bad," because their mother had to leave them to themselves, while she earned their bread at the wash-tub. With such children the Free Kindergarten would make the beginning, keeping them from evil associations while they were still too young for the public school, planting in them the rudiments of moral and intellectual culture, and that thirst for knowledge which is a sovereign pre-

servative for the young. We have one such already. While the kindergarten system promises to find a general acceptance among those parents who are able to pay for education, it should be equally extended to the poor who cannot afford it.

To go back one step further, the day-nursery or something like it, under proper sanitary regulations, is a proper complement of our school system. Many women, left suddenly widowed, are prevented for a time from earning their own living through the care of an infant on their hands. Some of them learn habits of dependence during this period which are not easily eradicated, and perhaps sink needlessly into the pauper class. Others are debarred from sending their older children to school, because they must keep them at home to look after the younger. At the annual meeting of the Ninth Ward Association, Mrs. Turner of Chadd's Ford—so well known in connection with "the Children's Week"—told of a Boston school teacher who found that this excuse was continually given by her little absentees. At last she hired a room and opened a day-nursery for these babies, and conducted it with great success, spending her recess among these little charges, in company with the poor woman hired to take care of them. A benevolent lady found her out, and placed at her disposal a roomy old house in that vicinity, and when Mrs. Turner visited it this fall she had several rooms full, one being devoted to babies in their cribs.

There are some serious objections to day-nurseries, because of the danger of spreading infection, to which very young children are more liable than are those of school age. But under proper medical inspection, such as our physicians are always most ready to furnish, we presume that this danger could be obviated.

The great success of the Children's Aid Society of New York suggests that much more might be done in the matter of securing suitable country homes for neglected children than we have yet done. Some ascribe to the efforts of that society, the remarkable decrease in the amount of crime which is observed in that city.

It is true that our comparative freedom from the degrading Tenement House System makes the need less urgent in Philadelphia. It is equally true—as Mrs. Leonard observes—that the family ties which bind parent and child are not to be lightly sundered; the child is often the last cord which binds a degraded father to good purposes, and the hope of a better life. But after full weight has been given to both these considerations, the fact remains that we have many children in this, as in every great city, whose removal to such homes would be a great benefit to themselves and no loss to any one else.

We formerly had two societies in Philadelphia for the transplanting of such children to better homes. One of these has ceased to exist, through the mismanagement of the person who was at its head. In eighteen years the excellent Agent of the other, Mr. Toland, has secured country homes for over a thousand children. Mr. Toland is a man who, if his energies were concentrated here might do as much good for our neglected children, as Mr. Brace has done for New York.

In the summer care of the children, our own city has taken the lead. The Children's Hospital, the Seaside Home, the Sanitarium on the Delaware, the Children's Week in the Country, we believe all originated in this city independently of external suggestion. They only need a farther extension, so that a still larger number of the children of the poor may share in these advantages. It would be a great gain if some part of Gloucester could be bought up, or some point farther down the river, and placed under proper control as a beautified and fitting resort for children and their mothers. The air of the Delaware is a specific for the cure of many summer diseases, especially *Cholera Infantum*, and if there were any place of resort to which the middle class of people and the respectable poor could take their children, without a sense of annoyance from unpleasant surroundings, it would be of vast benefit, especially to people living in the southern part of the city.

We have not exhausted all our points on this subject, but these are enough for once.

REPORTS.

EDUCATION OF VISITORS.

The following words are part of a paper prepared by request and read to the Corps of Visitors of the Seventh Ward Association. The whole paper would be cheerfully printed in unbroken sequence did the space of the "REGISTER" permit. Those who read this extract will be glad to know that other paragraphs from the same source are to follow in subsequent issues:

At the outset of any great movement involving a city or a community (in this case I ought rather to say "cities" and "communities," for the idea of Charity Organization is rapidly spreading through all civilized lands) at the *outset*, we say, enthusiasm is the prime factor; it is the only lever to move masses. Let us not despise it because it only starts the work and cannot carry it on. What traveler would climb a perilous mountain ascent but for the thought of the glorious prospect at the top? So, although enthusiasm has its downfall, and we are subject to frequent reactions as we plod along in paths where there is no poetry and no romance, still it has its day and does its work in bringing us together and starting us on the upward road. Moreover, it will return to us again and again as time goes on, now and then, here and there, quite as often as we need it, and even *our* work will have its share of poetry and romance. We have not, indeed, seen any strong reactions from the first enthusiasm *yet*. But we must be prepared for them and not be disheartened when they come. We need patience, wisdom, judgment, faithfulness, to carry on our work to its best results, far more than we need enthusiasm. Above all, we need the education of ourselves as Visitors.

Now, in what does this education consist? First, we are educated for this work by our homes and individual characters; secondly, by our reading and reflection, and thirdly, by experience. Perhaps some of you may not see in this the natural order, but I think you will all see that these elements must enter into our education. I have chosen this order as most natural to my own thinking.

First, in most of our homes are servants and dependents, and the poor to whom they are related, and to whom, through them, we have been brought into relations. If we have been habitually just, kind, patient and considerate in these relations, inspired by a deep feeling of responsibility to *them*, as well as to ourselves, in exacting faithful service, we have gone far towards being educated for Visitors. But if, unfortunately, we have grown up in homes where change of servants is always going on, where no ties either of respect or affection are formed, where no patience with failures on the part of ignorance or short-coming is allowed, and no training is possible on account of *our* ignorance, to correct those failures and shortcomings, then we are poorly prepared for Visitors, and we must get our education in some other way.

We are to work among our poorer brothers and sisters, as those must work to whom God has given such benefits that we cannot help sharing them so far as they are able to receive. Freely we have received, freely would we give. And always must we try to lift them to that higher plane where it is possible for them to receive more and better things still. And by those better things, I mean the gifts of courage, hope, self-dependence, and the capacity for more refined enjoyments: what gifts are like these? Of course if we labor in this spirit, nothing like condescension is possible to us in our relations to them. Their feelings, their rights, even their frailties will be as sacred in our eyes as those of our own families. But it is a mistake to believe that any letting of *ourselves* down, will ever lift *them* up. Respect, reverence for what our better education and moral and spiritual advantages may have taught *us*, is as important an influence in *their* lives as the knowledge of our sympathy and kindness. Nor are we unmindful of this fact in any of our relations in life, if we are wise. Husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, all practice a certain reticence, a certain reverence for each other which cures a world of sorrow. The "hail fellow well met" air which we sometimes see in those who would avoid condescension, often leads to rash relations with those we would benefit, and consequent disappointment. Let our poor friends rather see in our manner that we stand always ready, always on the alert to be their friends, but also that *they* have something to do to gain our approval, and to deserve our sympathy. No less than this should we ask of every human being. And the necessity of effort on their part, makes the costly gift of our friendship of value. But do we not see at every turn, that after all we can only give *ourselves*, exactly what *we are*. The fountain cannot rise higher than its source, and if we are not educating ourselves to this work all the time, what can we be to others? And this thought, that we are all *learners*, should give us the largest liberality with regard to other Visitors. How do we know that the blundering inexperienced Visitor of to-day may not become, as the years go by, a practical, efficient, long-suffering worker. She will be, if she uses all her advantages as a learner.

In the second place, whether or not we have had the home training, let us read and reflect. But some one says to me: "I don't see the use of reading; I don't see what good you get out of books; you learn by your own experience—that's what you want." No, my friend; we don't learn *in the best way* merely by our own experience. The records of work done by others will do us good in two ways—they will increase both our faith and our humility. They will show us what obstacles patient labor, long continued, has overcome. They will show us how many roads there are to the same place, and thus encourage us to try different ways when our own have not led us to the desired goal. And this liberality of methods inspires us with hope, and makes us feel a closer kinship with the whole, while the contemplation of every successful work or worker, adds to our faith. And by looking often at the noble work of the noblest souls in all countries and climes, how deep a sense we get of our own failures and needs and smallness. Surely this is a valuable lesson to gain, since humility keeps us near to God, the source and fountain of all spiritual power and influence. And then, too, reading and reflection save us much wasted time in our practical efforts. For when we begin a work like this numberless suggestions come to our minds, which are original inasmuch as they are new to *us*. But we cannot read much without finding that other people have had the same. And by knowing why they failed, or why they succeeded, we learn to select their practical plans or methods, most sure of success.

Thirdly, experience is our best and last teacher. Fortified by the

blessed home-life and training, encouraged, inspired and made humble by reading and reflection, we are prepared to go to work. Now we may plunge into the water and learn to swim; we could never have learned by standing on the bank to see the swimmers. If I have not already wearied your patience by these preliminary remarks, I would add that the first efforts of the Visitors should be to take in the primary principle of our Association, as to the danger of alms-giving. Try to recognize it as a very real danger. I cannot take up your time to prove this, if it needs proving; but you have only to read the best experience of the best minds to make you sure of it. Read Dr. Chalmers, read Dr. Guthrie, read Jeremy Taylor, Octavia Hill, Edward Dennison. These were no sentimentalists, but actual workers in a larger field than ours.

Jeremy Taylor's advice is this: "Give no alms to vicious persons, if such alms will support their sin, as if they will continue in idleness; 'If they will not work neither let them eat' or if they will spend it in drunkenness or wantonness. Such persons when they are reduced to very great want, must be relieved in such proportions as may not relieve their dying lust, but may refresh their faint or dying bodies." In a book called "Our New Masters," by Thomas Wright, an English author, occurs this paragraph: "As wonderful and incongruous things are done in the name of charity as were ever perpetrated in the name of liberty. If always twice blessed in spirit, it is often twice cursed in effect. If it covers a multitude of sins in those who give, it too often in another and worse sense covers a multitude of sins in those upon whom it is bestowed. To the worthless, scheming poor, it is a cloak for and incentive to the sins of lying and idleness, and although they do not see it in that light, it is a curse to them in that it does invite them to those sins it makes their lives morally degraded, prevents the development of any germ of human nobility or spirit of independence that might be in their nature."

HOOR SYSTEM OF WORK, ETC.

The Visitors' Corps of the Twenty-ninth Ward Association, in an admirable annual report, made suggestions which are given below, in the belief that they will express the wishes of many Visitors in every ward, and voice their experience, if they do not also give some fresh hints on the subject of opening a new field of employment for poor women.

And now we stand upon the threshold of another winter, and with the light of our past experience look forward to the duties which lie before us in these on-coming months. We have no reason to be discouraged, for everything wears an aspect of better cheer than we have seen for many years. Business activity is assured, and there is prospect that work may be found for all who are willing to do it. What we mainly need is the co-operation of the people in our vicinity. Do the poor ask us for work? Why there are plenty of people in this ward desiring service, willing to pay for it, and yet not knowing where to find it. Are there some who can earn food and shelter, but are sore put to it for needful clothes? There are enough cast-off garments among our well-to-do neighbors to make every poor person in the ward warm and comfortable through the winter. Do the suffering crave words of cheer? Our streets are lined with kindly hearts who would be glad to bestow the comforting word, if they did but know where it was needed. We need ask for little money if there is co-operation enough. If the people who want service, and those who have it to give, could only be brought together, both would be helped in a true self-respecting way, and in the end there would grow up increased love and respect for one another.

Some plans we have had in mind which should tend to such co-operation. In the first place, we are anxious to introduce here the hourly system of labor for women. This needs only to be mentioned to a house-keeper to commend itself at once to her favorable notice. By this plan a woman goes into a family one, two, three, or any number of hours at the rate of ten cents per hour. Here it may be seen we increase the number of employers at once, for many people, even in the humbler walks of life, would engage a person for an hour to help in the heavier household work, who could not think of paying a day's or even a half day's ordinary wages. There are great advantages in this plan which we may not discuss here. Objections may be urged. You may say the sum is trifling. Not if, as many women are now doing, they make twelve hours to the day, and if they do not get full employment they can, at least, keep their families from starvation.

The question occurs here, how can we serve those poor women who have helpless children on their hands. Here, we believe, we are to have a valuable adjunct in a day-nursery, which has recently been established within our limits. One woman upon our lists was compelled all last year to keep her oldest child out of school to take care of two little ones while she went out to work. This fall she sends the little ones to the nursery, where, for the sum of twelve cents per day, they are both given the best of care. The woman goes to her daily toil with a mind at rest, and the older children are in their proper place at school.

But if in any one respect we see our duty clearer than another, it is in the care we should bestow upon the children who are growing up amongst us. They must be taken off our streets and made to go to school. We are met here by the complaint of the parent, that they have no suitable clothing. We wish your co-operation here, urging all to give their cast-off garments to the Visitors' Corps for the use of the poor of the ward. We claim that in no way could you make better disposal of such articles as you can spare, since the Visitor is required, after the bestowal of garments to follow them up and see what use has been made of them, whether they are serving the ends the donor intended. No doubt there are excellent garments laid aside in the houses of our friends, which they would be more than glad to dispense with, if they could know they were worthily bestowed.

REPORT ON EMPLOYMENT.

The following article comprises the introductory part of the Report of the Central Board's Committee on Employment:

There are certain principles connected with finding employment for the poor which seem so obvious that they might be taken as axioms to guide our efforts to make work the basis of relief. These may be stated as follows:

First. That seeking employment for the necessitous is as truly a matter of charity as giving them fuel, food or clothing. As alms ought to be withheld from persons who can supply their physical wants from their own resources, so people out of employment ought themselves to try to find occupation rather than rely upon the agency of others to procure it for them. An able-bodied man is no more endowed with ability to earn his bread, than he is with a faculty to obtain useful work. This is stated as a general rule, to which many exceptions may be made; but it is believed that experience among the needy will show that a large majority of those out of employment are in that situation, because they will not work, or perhaps because, having work, they will not do it faithfully or steadily. With many of this class, the pretense so often urged of desiring employment, proves to be a mere plea for awakening sympathy, for if work is procured for them they soon refuse it and turn again to idleness and beggary.

Secondly. It is hardly the function of a charitable organization to make work for the poor. Societies which attempt to furnish employment at their own risk, can only do so either by displacing people already earning their living, or by putting their beneficiaries into competition with those who are more resolute and independent. There is the same objection in principle to forcing honest industry into rivalry with the labor of those who eke out a livelihood by charity, as with prison and State pauper toil. The tendency of all schemes wherein a part of the burden of life is borne by third parties, and ease given from the conditions under which thrifty, industrious families maintain themselves, is to discourage self-reliant workers, to reduce wages and to induce men to turn in shiftless indifference to others' help. As matter of fact, Charitable Societies to furnish work, being based on wrong economic principles, have not greatly flourished. On the one hand, they soon are forced into some kind of factory business which puts them in competition with legitimate trade, and from want of experience or capital are driven to the wall. On the other, they find but a small proportion of their beneficiaries raised from depression and impotency to regular crafts and self-support.

Thirdly. The true function of an employment society is, not to create avocations, but to re-distribute labor. There is work enough in the land for all, but the most serious difficulty to be met is where artisans and laborers congregate in places already over-supplied and find themselves unable to move elsewhere. This inability may arise from ignorance of where to apply for work, from want of acquaintance and recommendation, or from poverty which hinders their removal to points where their services are needed. There is room for a well-devised scheme to re-distribute labor, in order to bring the supply and demand together. But such a scheme to be successful, must cover a large territory in the industrial world, and maintain a wide correspondence and investigation.

Fourthly. No employment bureau, such as is here suggested, can long maintain itself, unless the objects of its care are competent, both morally and industrially, to fill the places for which they are recommended. Labor is the employer's power, and no manufacturer nor tradesman can afford the losses entailed by imperfect or irregular power. They cannot sustain themselves in the clever economies of business, unless they can depend on the skill and faithfulness of their subordinates. Against this law it is useless to contend. If an employment office does not send out reliable workmen, it will soon fall into discredit and be crowded into uselessness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

[Taken from a circular letter issued by one of the Executive Committee of Central Board.]

The Children's Aid Society of New York embraces to-day—Industrial Schools, twelve Night Schools, six Lodging Houses (night) for children, and an office where children are received for disposition as their condition may suggest. Last year 3,800 were placed with families in the West and other States. Over 30,000 children were cared for last year in the several departments of this Society. Due to this Society, directly or indirectly, is the notable reduction in juvenile delinquency in New York of late years.

Vagrant girls committed 1860,	5,880
" " " 1871,	528
By increase of population the number should be	6,800
Girls for larceny in 1863,	1,183
" " " 1871,	572
Boys " " " 1859,	2,628
" " " " 1871,	1,978
By increase of population the number should be	2,800
Arrests of pickpockets decreased in ten years from	466 to 313
The arrests of girls under 20 in 1863,	8,132
" " " " 20 in 1871,	1,820

There has been, too, an extraordinary reduction of crime through the Industrial and Reformatory Schools in England and Scotland, Sweden and elsewhere. Now, the New York Children's Aid Society, twenty-five years ago, began with a revenue of \$4,000, and last year it amounted to about \$225,000. Of this, the State Board of Education furnished about \$34,000, and the City and County of New York, \$70,000 to the support of the Industrial Schools. The compulsory law and a Truant Police are in force, and the teachers

and schools are under the supervision of the Board of Education. The voluntary contributions amount to \$76,000. It is a fact that the compulsory law, etc., were brought into existence through the influence of this Society. If, then, such credit and support attaches to this Society on the part, both of the State and its best people, it would seem proper that a Children's Aid Society should be established here. Would not a compulsory law follow also? Particularly observe the figures published in a late report of our Eastern Penitentiary, where, while between 1860 and 1870 population increased only 14 per cent., crime increased 21 per cent., while in England between 1836 and 1873, population increased 50 per cent., but crime had diminished 40 per cent. By a like ratio (it is stated) to our Pennsylvania showing, England should have 30,000 criminals in place of the 11,000 which she actually has. This reduction in England commenced after 1836, when Miss Carpenter inaugurated the Industrial Schools. In Aberdeen, Scotland, previous to 1860, the annual thefts averaged 1,242, which was reduced in 1874 to 286, and in 1876 not a single case was set down for trial. The presiding judge imputed this mainly to the Industrial and Reformatory Schools.

EXTRACT FROM CIRCULAR LETTER TO SEWING SOCIETIES OF BOSTON.

The system on which work should be given out must combine the four essentials of wise and complete charity, viz.: Visitation, relief by work, instruction, and graduation.

Instruction is the essence of the whole reform, and it includes many things. Cleanliness of person, of children, and of rooms, are often a prime necessity for any real elevation, as the lack of it is a proof of degradation, and leads husband and children down from bad to worse. Temperance must also be enforced. Good conduct in these and all other ways is a condition of getting aid by work. All this is an education, not of the needle, but of life. The friendly relation growing out of giving work week by week, can enable a lady to deal with her dependent family kindly, tenderly, with sympathy, and yet with firmness; giving the cheer and hope, and counsel, and encouragement which may, perhaps, make life a new and better thing, raising it from a failure into success.

But each lady of every Sewing Society should also establish and maintain those relations of friendly aid and visiting with at least one indigent family. How simple this seems. Yet if it were done, the need for the Associated Charities and for most of the other charities of the city would vanish—the problem of our pauperism would be in great part solved. Of course, each such lady should do her little piece of the great whole of the city's charities thoroughly. She should ascertain all about her dependents, what other relief they get, which in most cases should stop, if she gave judicious relief. For one of the reforms especially aimed at is to stop the habit—alas! almost universal—of partly relieving a person and then sending her through the parish, or the city, or the various Societies, with instructions where and how to beg, thus training her in the art of beggary. The wise rule surely is for each Society and each person to care for fewer cases and care for them thoroughly, rather than to be ambitious of large numbers and partial work.

No Sewing Society should be content with merely giving out work. They should insist on its being well done, and done over if necessary, with instruction how to do it best. With progress, the woman should, before long, be able to get regular sewing. Instruction might also be procured in other kinds of work—scrubbing, cooking, or laundry work.

Graduation is the thing always to aim at. See that every woman (and man too) who receives any kind of relief by work, as well as if by gratuity, graduates from the rolls of charity, and becomes self-supporting at the earliest moment. Societies are too apt to keep on giving, after the need has passed. Scrutinize constantly the lists of persons relieved. Especially aim to find legitimate work for each person, and then stop the charity work.

MISCELLANEOUS.

QUERIES.

Do the women Visitors look after poor children unnecessarily kept away from school?

Have all the Superintendents a list of women who will wash, scrub, iron or sew for ten cents an hour; and a list of carpenters and bricklayers who will work for fifteen cents an hour?

Has every Visitor and Director procured a copy of the "Manual," and are they prepared to carry out its suggestions when they enter the homes of the poor, or seek out the most appropriate relief?

Are all the Ward Offices supplied with deposit books for children or others desiring to leave their savings with the Superintendent?

Are the Directors in the different wards exerting themselves "to prevent indiscriminate giving" by securing a thorough distribution of tickets?

NOTES.

A Central Employment Bureau has been opened under the auspices of this Society, under the management of Dr. E. P. Jefferis, recently Superintendent of the Ninth Ward Association, and its office is located in the Central Coffee House at 1427 Market street. It is hoped that the Bureau will be in effective operation at an early date.

In Boston the Police Station-houses no longer lodge vagrants, but send them to "The Wayfarers' Lodge," under the control of the Overseers of the Poor. Here they are thoroughly cleansed, given a comfortable bed, and in the morning they are required to perform a stint occupying from

an hour and a half to two hours before getting breakfast. The scheme is reported to work admirably, and its success is largely due to the co-operation of the Police Commissioners with the Overseers of the Poor.

On several occasions it has been proposed in City Councils to confide the distribution of public out-door relief to our Ward Associations. To this there are objections which the City Solicitor would probably put in shape if the attempt were made. But the real key to the situation, which avoids all legal objections, is for the Guardians of the Poor to appoint the Ward Superintendents as their Visitors.

CASES.

The following instance of the value of co-operation may be cited:

CASE 1. G. R. and his wife had been in comfortable circumstances. At time of visit by one of our Visitors they were discovered in a state of the greatest destitution and distress. This was early in January. The man was bed-ridden and in a very low condition through the want of necessities of all kinds. He was in a consumptive condition, consequent upon neglect and exposure following an inflammation of the lungs. He had no friends nor members of his family in this country. His wife, the only person in attendance upon him, was in a condition of half starvation, emaciated and suffering from a terribly ulcerated condition of her head, right arm and side, the result of a serious scald. They had pawned everything, and were both dying from utter want and neglect. They were moreover living in a house among a drinking and fighting family, notorious for various forms of vice and crime. The effect of these combined circumstances was, that the woman was in a semi-hysterical condition. One of the first steps taken by the Association was their removal to a decent tenement.

Second. Suitable medical attendance furnished by the Philadelphia Dispensary.

Third. The City Mission took the case on their consumptive list, paid the rent and supplied sick diet.

Fourth. The Guardians supplemented the fuel supply.

Fifth. The Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, of St. Joseph's Church, supplied the groceries throughout the time of their distress.

Sixth. The Union Benevolent contributed coal and a stove.

Seventh. The Fifth Ward Association supplied coal, and divided in this between the Guardians and the Union Benevolent, also added to the supplies of groceries. The Visitor also obtained through private sources special articles of diet and provisions for their comfort, and was the medium by which the aid of the several societies was obtained; and it was through this medium, too, that the aid was continued in the proper order during protracted claims upon relief without over-lapping, and without coming too heavily on any one association.

Eighth. "The Home for the Homeless" also furnished special aid.

Ninth. The Apprentices Library also supplied books to the man during his convalescence. He was well educated and appreciated this opportunity in no small degree. The man and his wife are now able and out. The former is at work, and there is every evidence of his entire recovery. The woman was in an equally threatened condition, and they are both remarkable instances of physical recovery. This is to be attributed, in the opinion of the physician who attended, to the kind care and attention through the combination of heart and hand as above mentioned. It is believed that it was moral aid, the subtle forces of sympathy and kindness, more than the material aid to which these happy results are due.

CASE 2. C. F., an old woman, was ascertained to have supported for years a number of able-bodied connections in idleness, through regular pensions in money and liberal supplies of various supplies from several of her former employers. She was also found to have been in the receipt of supplies from nearly all of the municipal relief societies, as well as from the Guardians. Her benefactors were very indignant at the imposition the old lady had so adroitly been practising upon them for many years.

CASE 3. J. L., a very respectable old man, alone and suffering from great physical distress, was ascertained to have children in good circumstances in California. Through the representations of the Association he was in the receipt of regular remittances from them until the time of his death—of recent occurrence. Twelve dollars were found in his possession.

CASE 4. C. D., a well-mannered family and of plausible address applied. It was found that they were regularly assisted through private benefactions, and that three tons of coal had already been obtained, January 10, from the Guardians and other sources. The father had a bank account of over \$1,400, believed to be the proceeds of the thefts of one of the sons, a river thief, who had been on trial under heavy charges. Another son had been nine times in the House of Correction for drunkenness and brawls. The daughter was not respectable, and the mother was always more or less under the effects of liquor. The Visitor was nevertheless favorably impressed on the first visit, and it was only through careful inquiry that these facts came to light.

CASE 5. O—was ascertained to borrow her neighbor's children, and to be in the charge of a bed-ridden relative at the time of expected visits from any of the Relief Societies. In return for these services of her neighbors she retailed the coal, etc., which she begged at low rates. The husband was in regular employment at \$8 per week, although he professed great anxiety for work to our Visitor. The case was published and the family have left the ward.

CASE 6. McD. and wife had lost considerable savings, and the man his situation through drink. In great distress, relief was granted on a pledge given to their priest that they would not drink. On this assurance the man was re-employed at good wages as a book binder, and they have since done well.

CASE 7. T., bed ridden and dying through neglect, was placed in hospital. His child, a girl of 11 years, very intelligent and interesting, was employed selling papers about the Girard House and streets at times till midnight. The child would have been ruined. On representations of her step-mother she was taken from the streets and placed in a public school, and was soon at the head of her class. Very respectable and well-to-do relatives were afterwards discovered, and the child has been placed under their supervision and is doing well.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 15, 1879.

[No. 2.]

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

BOOKS TO READ.

- 1.—Suggestions to the Charitable for Systematic Inquiry into the cases of Applicants for Relief. By C. J. RISTON-TURNER, Secretary of London C. O. Soc. 1877. Price, two and sixpence.
- 2.—A Handy Book for Visitors of the Poor in London. By CHAS. B. P. BOSANQUET, M. A., Secretary of the London C. O. Soc. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1874. Price, two shillings.
- 3.—The Systematic Visitation of the Poor in their own Homes, an Indispensable Basis of Effective Charity. SIR CHARLES TREVELYAN. London C. O. Soc.
- 4.—Thoughts and Experiences of a Charity Organizationist. By J. HORNSBY WRIGHT. London. 1878.
- 5.—Homes of the London Poor. By MISS OCTAVIA HILL. Re-published by the State Charities Aid Association of New York, (Office, 6 E. 14th St.) Price, 25 cents.
- 6.—Notes on Nursing. By FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE. Re-published by D. Appleton & Co., New York.
- 7.—The Children of the State. The Training of Juvenile Paupers. London. Macmillan & Co.
- 8.—Reports and Papers of the Germantown Relief Association.
- 9.—"Wisdom in Charity." By REV. CHARLES G. AMES, in the *Penn Monthly* for January, 1877.
- 10.—Phases of Charity. By REV. S. HUMPHREYS GURTEEN, of Buffalo, (containing the Constitution and By-Laws of the Buffalo C. O. Soc.). New York, A. D. F. Rendolph & Co.
- 11.—Provident Schemes. By the same. Published by the Charity Organization Soc. Buffalo, N. Y., January, 1879.
- 12.—The Importance of Uniting Individual and Associated Volunteer Efforts in Behalf of the Poor. By MISS L. L. SCHUTLER. Published by the State Charities Aid Assoc. of New York. Price, 15 cents.
- 13.—A Manual for the Visitors of the Poor. By REV. J. W. KRAMER, M. D., New York. D. Appleton & Co. 1876.

EDITORIAL.

CO-OPERATION.

Some perplexity has undoubtedly been felt in the Ward Associations as to how co-operation can be secured with existing charities. Some of the old Societies are hindered by their charters from giving aid except through their own agents; others are not prepared for very cordial concert of action with us, as our position seems something of a reflection on their methods, and our own work is not fully tested by experience.

But two things may keep us onward in this direction; one is the constant recollection of the fact that we are publicly pledged to secure the largest measure of co-operation practicable, and we have reached a position where our own work will be impaired unless we bring about concert of action among the charities of the city. The second thing is that we are pledged to investigate all cases referred to us. Now, in Boston and Buffalo the Societies kindred to ours have almost wholly confined their work to investigation for the Societies of those cities. That is the measure of co-operation they have sought, and felt to be worth seeking.

Precisely this service our Associations can render to the Fuel Societies, the Soup-houses, the Dispensaries, and all other distributing agencies which are without the means of inquiring into the situation of their claimants for aid. As our investigation is constant, repeated, and penetrates every part of the city, we are fast getting an exact acquaintance with the poor, which will be invaluable to relieving Societies. They can see and appreciate the service our Associations could render to them, by reporting the facts in any case they may refer to us. We might fairly urge their Boards of Directors to make use of our facilities for investigation.

In such co-operation we do not offend their *amour propre*, by any ex-

pression of a desire to take their almoning out of their hands; we do them a service, the value of which they feel more and more, and we learn for ourselves what sources of aid are used by the poor besides our own, simply through this reference of cases. This may seem a very small measure of co-operation, but it is a good sound footing, and it does bring about a practical unity in the administration of the manifold charities of Philadelphia, which will be a source of great strength and honor to our Society. We must work for the common good, using such occasions as come in our way to accomplish our purposes.

HINTS TO VISITORS.

Our Visitors are entitled to peculiar respect for the amiable and noble way in which they have stood, unavoidably thus far, in an awkward and undefined position. They found the inquiries they were asked to make, also prosecuted by the Superintendents, and their judgment as to relief required, met at times by counter-judgments of the Committee on Decision of Relief. Much of the difficulty sprang out of the newness of our work. The conditions were not ripe for the Visitors to develop the best, that is the educational, part of their undertaking. At any stage of progress, thus far, it has been difficult to define the duties of Visitors, since their scope was as great as tact and ingenuity could make it, and a woman's effectiveness can only rest upon her experience and personal influence. At the same time, perhaps, we are far enough on, for a few hints to be of service, and to make the future work of Visitors more intelligible and distinct.

In the first place, the primary duty of the Visitor is not to investigate. The Superintendent is to visit the case, to examine references, to discover overlapping, to detect real situations, etc. But the Visitor cannot do her work without all the knowledge in possession of the Superintendent. This she will need, and even more subtle knowledge, such as clear impressions of the individual character of the members of poor families. She wants to know something of their intercourse one with another, of their temperament, of their impulses or want of them, of their susceptibility to temptations or to good influences. She needs to discern what mental habits they have, whether they are apathetic, dispirited, envious, censorious, complaining, heedless or improvident. She can, as she goes on, discover many circumstances which the Superintendent ought to know to complete his register and to enable him to be more judicious and apt in the manner and nature of the relief he gives. But the true aim of the Visitor is not to investigate on the Superintendent's account. Rather the reverse is true, for she is to have the benefit of all the information in his possession.

Now the necessity for the Visitor to be thus minutely informed arises from the work of personal influence which she undertakes to do. Without a full and accurate knowledge of her wards she cannot understand them, sympathise with their forms of trial, nor counsel with those few, genuine, apt and grave words which show personal interest, and are worth volumes of lecturing from tracts and books. Just as the power of a good teacher increases, as she learns the mental habits of her pupil and makes him feel that he is in kind and wise and helpful hands; or just as personal influence at home grows out of our thorough knowledge one of another, whereby we know quite as often when to be silent as when to speak, or where to put a thought into an act rather than into words; so the power of the Visitor rests upon a like acquaintance, and the real interest which that acquaintance excites. For all persons are interesting to true hearts in proportion as they are known.

When the Visitor stands upon this footing of knowledge and sympathy with her wards, at once her work will become to her more specific and

clear. It will shape itself into two branches, the second of which is the consequence of the first. The first thing to do is to arouse the poor to use all their own resources, and to abandon all dependent habits, unless there be cases of sickness, infirmity, or child-burdened widow hood. If there be children in the family, let them be made objects of especial care, and the parental pride aroused not to do anything to depress and disgrace the young lives in their charge. The children should be placed in school, and this will often mean that the Visitor must get them prepared with suitable clothing for the school-room. It may, also, impose the duty of following the child up and getting stated reports from the teacher of its attendance and progress. When there are deserted wives or widows who have to detain the older children at home to look after the younger, the Visitor will avail herself of the *criche* or day-nursery nearest, and induce the mother to put her children there when she must be away from home.

Then members of a family must be aroused to hopefulness and courage, which they often lack from want of ability to do anything well, or of some helping hand. The aged and the invalids might do something in the way of knitting, crocheting and other light work, which would bring them some revenue and make the burden of their care lighter. For women willing to work might be found employment in assisting housekeepers under the ten cents an hour plan of work. The poor make a wasteful use of their resources, being bad cooks, poor sewers and discouraged housekeepers. Most useful hints could be given them on these topics, and perhaps, many a dispirited housewife would be gratified for some instruction in cutting out garments, repairing them, and improving in simple ways her table. Many resources of comfort, right at hand, without cost, the poor utterly neglect. They do not know the value of sunlight and ventilation. They live in stifled atmospheres which depress vitality and make work hard, while entailing expense in buying medicine for the sick. A more delicate, but not less important matter is personal cleanliness, but habits of personal care and self-respect are interwoven, and if a sitting-room can only be made cheerful, or be decorated with a few flowers, these improvements will bring with them refined tastes in other things. Of course, much tact and friendly acquaintance are pre-requisites to the Visitor's schemes of domestic education. But opportunities will constantly occur when the Visitor can say the suitable word, if she be a frequent caller. Her tact may enable her to lay the foundation of future effectiveness, by bringing the flowers, especially to the sick; by taking good reading to the homes of the poor, especially that which points out to them how to make the most of their own resources. In care for the children, in suggestions at times of sickness, in sanitary recommendations which are very important, in encouraging the depressed by showing them something to do, in drawing men and women to the use of provident societies, in surrounding the poor with helpful associations, the Visitors can do a great work, although it will require much patience and thought.

When the Visitor thoroughly knows her wards, then she is prepared to tell when their circumstances have reached an emergency beyond their resources, and she can recommend the relief which will be adequate and temporary. Here a great service is to be done—even stopping the insufficient and tantalizing doles which mock real necessity and force the needy to glean in every field of charity with deception and conscious self-disgrace. But it is a very delicate matter to decide what relief is adequate and how it should be dispensed. The Visitor must know her poor families well in order to speak authoritatively on such a matter. But when she can do so, she will find her judgment conclusive with the Ward Association.

Out of this household experience will spring in the Visitor's mind a sense that there are forms of need for which society has made no provision, and which can best be met by organization and concert of action. Some of these things may be suggested, as day-nurseries, industrial and sewing-schools, penny-savings, local labor tests, and even legal reforms, whereby vicious persons and those who abandon or impose upon their families, may be suitably restrained. No doubt the Visitors have already many suggestions of provident and other schemes to make, but in new enterprises there must be caution exercised against too great haste or superficial conclusions. Only those agencies will take root amongst us which are permanently needed, and these can only be discovered through much experience and careful thinking. Every undertaking which proves inappropriate and has to be abandoned, operates to discourage our workers. But there is room for little misgiving on this score, especially while the Visitors meet often in conference, and have the benefit of mutual suggestion and criticism.

It will be seen from the foregoing outlines, if on the one hand, that the Visitors have an onerous and often vague and obscure work to perform, that on the other hand they have in their keeping the future shaping and progress of this Society. Whatever effectual work it does must grow, not out of theories, but experience in the homes of wretchedness and poverty. They who can truly voice the inarticulate woes and pleas of the miserable, must ever speak with authority to every humane and candid heart.

LIGHT IS DAWNING.

Recently one of the daily papers of the city severely attacked our Society for the expenditure of its Central Fund, and, subsequently, a particular ward for what constituted its peculiar merit, namely, that it had spent but \$72 in relief. In that ward the Association had the co-operation of the Guardian of the Poor, and employed as superintendent one of the oldest and expertest almoners in the city. It is not alleged that any poor went uninvestigated, or that any meritorious case was left to suffer. The ward simply found the city out-door relief, and \$72 of their own funds were adequate, and this is a matter of congratulation, as showing that distress is slight in that district. Had more been needed, more would have been given, for the Directors did not call in all their subscriptions, because they were not wanted. Such criticisms, however much they may embarrass us by misleading the public mind and representing our Society as a relieving agency, proceed from a mistaken conception of our work and principles. But even the journal alluded to has finally formed a just conception of our Central Society and its methods; only, as it speaks in a hypothetical way; it does not seem aware that what it suggests was originally incorporated into our scheme of a Central Board, as it is in the present Assembly, with its Board of Directors. Its language is:

"If the Charity Organization of Philadelphia were merely an Association for the study of social science, addressing itself to the consideration of the interesting and complex questions connected with the great problem of poverty, with a view, through an exhaustive system of inquiry and the diligent collection of statistics, to furnish accurate needed data for a large, liberal and wise plan of administering relief to the poor according to their real necessities, the society would subserve a most valuable end, and would be worthy of encouragement. Even then, funds to meet the expense of these investigations should be specially set apart for that distinctive purpose, and should not be in any case solicited as for a directly charitable object. Not a cent should be accepted by such a Society from any one under the pretence of helping the poor. The actual dispensation of relief should be left with the various missions, hospitals, dispensaries, homes and other existing charities which collectively already cover the whole ground."

Precisely that thing was done by the Central Board last year, and we are glad to see that light is breaking on the public mind by this recognition of our Society's functions.

REPORTS.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held upon the 18th inst., and consisted of conferences during the morning and afternoon, at the Central Lecture Hall, 15th and Market streets, a business meeting in the foyer of the Academy of Music at 7 P. M., and a Public Meeting in the Academy proper, at 8 o'clock. At the conferences the following topics were discussed by persons who had devoted much study and thought to the subject, viz.: "Relation of intemperance to pauperism;" "Education of children, with its industrial aspects;" "Penal and reformatory institutions;" "Vagrancy and its prevention;" "The Organization of charity in Cities;" "Labor and labor bureaus;" and "Hygiene and construction of public buildings and dwellings."

At the business meeting the annual report of the Central Board was presented, and new by-laws were adopted, whose main features are explained in "Notes of Society Work," in another column. The name of the society was abbreviated to the "PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY," and the following Board of Directors was elected to serve for the ensuing year, viz.:

H. Lenox Hodge, M. D.,	Wm. B. Hackenbourg,
John H. Atwood,	Thomas S. Harrison,
Joshua L. Bailly,	Elmore C. Hine, M. D.,
Rudolph Blankenburg,	Samuel Huston,
Charles E. Cadwalader, M. D.,	Wm. V. Keating, M. D.,
Henry T. Child, M. D.,	Rev. D. O. Kellogg,
George K. Cross,	Josiah R. Sypher,
A. C. Deakney, M. D.,	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph. D.,
Nelson F. Evans,	George N. Torrence,
Philip C. Garrett,	Albert B. Williams,
	Robert N. Willson.

At the public meeting Hon. Daniel M. Fox presided, and addresses were made by General Secretary, Col. Alex. McClure, Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, of New York, and Rev. Charles G. Ames and Robert Treat Paine, Esq., of Boston. The papers and addresses at all the gatherings were able and instructive, and we regret exceedingly that the space and means at our command will not permit us to put them into permanent shape. We can only take room to give a few thoughts from the speech of Mr. Ames, for which we are indebted to a friend who carefully prepared the following notes :

Mr. AMES said :—

I think that since the organization of this Society, Philadelphia has been doing wonders in the way of true charity. Your noble men and women have undertaken a heavy contract, but if there is really wisdom working in love, it is the inspiration of God. You must bring to bear directly, when and where it is wanted, the good sense the virtue and the health of the city upon its least favored inhabitant. Somebody must care for every child, or you have either a vagabond or a dead baby. All of us have been more or less neglected, and therefore, have a certain degree of vagabondism in our constitutions. Society should be in a city much what it is in a village—not that everybody should know the affairs of 800,000 people, but that no one should lack a friend. The new charity means *giving*, a thousand times more than the old, but it is giving in a more sacred sense. The spirit of the old administration was good, but the giving was bad.

Like the Schuylkill water delivery by thousands of faucets all over the city, so your beneficence should be carried to every corner of it. But I don't believe much in pipes where there is no water. What is most wanted is the trinity of good sense, good principle and good habits.

There should be established a steady pressure from the better classes upon those in the thralldom of inferior conditions. As the President of the Associated Charities of Boston has well said, our hopes would have got far towards realization if every family could have one wise and faithful friend. Everybody, almost, in this world, is hungry for kindness. The poor are our kindred. Among all classes alike the causes of pauperism are operative. Labor should be made honorable. I can think of no more flagrant case of blasphemy than a lazy man's prayer. The new work may turn out to be old as the eternal order of things, but to those now trying the experiment it is new, because different from the old order of things, which, as I was once told at a charity office, employed one man to visit 16,000 applicants—a work under the new plan committed to 1,500 women. One of the hardest tasks for the human mind is to entertain a new idea, but the task must be accomplished, or the new charity falls flat. It is not enough to know that a man is poor, or even that he is rich. The important question in both cases is, how did he become rich, or poor?

Lend the poor your brains and hearts. Let the liberal soul devise liberal things. Thus shall we come to an important study. The facts collected will form the basis for a new science of charity. We can never get the work, however, into such a shape that anybody can do it by turning a crank. Here my water-supply illustration fails. It was easy to run with the "old machine," but it is not going to be easy to run with this. Law, music and painting require practice as well as theory. Routine work will not do. So in this work, things must be kept open for the free play of head and heart. Let theory come by practice, rather than practice by theory. This is favored by the structure of this Society. Organization is not everything, and the men and women who enter into the work should be considered about as good as the people they undertake to help. The class of people who are willing that others should pay their bills is not small, and pauperism is based on the willingness to live on other people's earnings. We are to learn how not to give, as well as how to give, and the withholding demands a higher wisdom than the giving. I believe that when the Roman Catholic Church recognizes the common sense that is at the bottom of this movement, it will bring its great charities also into co-operation with the Society for the Organization of Charity, as it already has done in London, Buffalo and elsewhere.

EXTRACTS FROM CHARITY ORGANIZATION PAPERS.

In illustration of the views editorially expressed in this number on the expenditures of this society, the following extracts are here produced :

First. From the annual report of this society, showing that the Central Board anticipated objections, and was prepared to meet them.

"There is one criticism which will inevitably be made on the work of the society where its principles are not understood. If the community look upon it as essentially a relief-giving society, it will conceive that it asks money for the destitute, and ought, therefore, to make the cost of administration as small as possible in proportion to the amount expended as alms. But that standard of judgment is an erroneous one. This society sprang out of the conviction that the poor were not being benefited but injured by indiscriminate alms-giving. It is based upon the belief that the truest test of success in charitable work is to be sought in reducing the demand for it. The avowal may as well be promptly and plainly made, that this society exists chiefly for purposes of administration, and that it counts it better to spend five dollars in seeing that our poor brethren suffer no harm, than one in corrupting their moral sense and breaking down their self-reliance. Nor does this view of the social problem spring out of any reluctance to share with the poor the bounties of Providence so common to most families in this city. Rather is it seen that the needy should have more attention and nobler ministrations than the purse can supply, in order that eventually they may have purses of their own out of which will flow unintermitting comfort."

Second. From the Charity Organization Reporter of the London Society, published November 13th, 1879.

"That we expend a vast amount in administration and very little in relief is a charge

continually brought against this society. This is only half the truth; not only do we lay out a great deal of money, but we also expend much time and energy in order to carry out that which we have undertaken, viz., to organize charitable relief. To explain the apparent disproportion between expenditure and actual relief, an illustrative case may be given. M. N. applied for relief, and was somewhat reticent about antecedents, etc. By dint of careful inquiry, extending over three months, entailing the writing and receipt of no less than 118 letters, some twenty personal interviews in various parts of London, and information collected from the country and foreign parts, it was ascertained that M. N. was truly deserving; relations were made aware of the necessity of the case, and on their coming forward with offer of home and help, the society was enabled to make the necessary arrangements to meet them. The actual sum expended in relief was £5. 10s. 0½d.; of this sum £4. 1s. was contributed by persons interested in the case, so that all that will appear under the head of 'grants' in the Committee's accounts will be £1. 9s. 0½d. Between three and four pounds have been expended directly in making inquiries and bringing about what M. N. could never have done unaided. Cases of this description are constantly before our Committees, but from their very nature they cannot be given to the world."

Third. From the "MONTHLY RECORD," for November, published by the "New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor."

"The Association is distinctively a business body. Its projectors and managers through its thirty odd years of useful labor have been practical men, who believe in system and organization, and in accomplishing the largest results with the least waste of time energy and money. They have sought to do the greatest good for the greatest number, and with the least money. They have had no desire to multiply munificence, but would rather report a lessened expenditure if the needs of the suffering could thus be met. As was stated in a former issue of this journal, the pride which most persons express at the number of organizations engaged in benevolence, is illogical. Charitable institutions are necessitated by public distress; hence their multiplication is a misfortune. To check distress, not merely to relieve it, demands our earnest effort. Happy is that people which has no history, and blessed would be the community where there was no need for benevolence. This is the logic of facts, not of sentiment. The end and sole aim of genuine charity should ever be to eradicate itself, to do away with the need of its existence. In this direction alone is safety; otherwise there would be no end to giving and chronic pauperism would inevitably follow.

The permanently successful, philanthropic efforts must tend to dry up the sources of the rising current of pauperism. Prevention is the only curative. It will not serve to scotch the snake, we must kill it."

OTHER CHARITIES.

We have been waited upon by the Chairman of the Admitting Committee of the ORPHAN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA, whose admirable asylum is located at 64th Street and Lansdowne Avenue, and have, from the lady in question, the information that the home has been recently enlarged to accommodate 110 children, and that vacancies now exist for about twenty children. The Admitting Committee will take pleasure in considering applications from any of our Ward Associations in behalf of children coming within the rules of their society. The conditions and mode of application will be found upon page 141 of our Manual. Candidates must be fatherless boys under six, or girls under eight years of age; free from bodily or mental infirmity, and must be *relinquished* to the Society. These qualifications cannot be waived, and the names of the Managers of the institution are sufficient guarantee that they will faithfully fulfill their trusts.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

The Second Annual Report of the Harrisburg Benevolent Association comes to us with its admirable work detailed therein. That work is summarized in the Report as follows:—

"Our contract with the City Councils enables us to give employment to many men and boys, who would otherwise have been wholly dependent upon the charity of our citizens for their daily bread. We have had as many as 200 men and boys, and 50 carts employed daily. The work was done under the immediate supervision of the Highway Committee of Councils, and of the City Engineer. By this judicious arrangement, whilst we are enabled to furnish work to all who desired it, and we regard this as the highest charity, the City has realized a direct saving of not less than 20 per cent. on the cost of similar work done in the usual manner.

Relief in kind was given to 1,538 persons, representing 448 families. Of these, 61 per cent. were white and 39 per cent. were colored. The principle of teaching people to help themselves has been a leading thought with your Board, and by its constant enforcement we have been able to reduce the expenses of our tax-payers, for the care of poor, 29 per cent. below the cost for the previous winter. A comparison of the difference of the cost for assisting the poor for the winter previous to our organization, with that of the past winter, results as follows:—

Cost during winter 1876-1877.....	\$8,100 10
Cost during winter 1878-1879.....	1,890 38
Showing a saving of.....	\$6,209 72

or a reduction to the tax-payers and benevolent citizens of 77 per cent. of previous outlay for this purpose.

In the 'Department of Women's Work' the results have also been quite satisfactory. The report of this branch of work (the full details of which will be found elsewhere) shows that sewing was furnished to 281 women, all of whom were dependent upon their own labor for support."

NOTES OF SOCIETY WORK.

The Society for Organizing Charity, in place of its former Central Board or Council, constituted of only two delegates from each Ward Association, has by amendments adopted at the recent annual meeting substituted an Assembly, which consists of all Officers, Directors and Visitors of the several Ward Associations, comprising some 1,500 workers. This body will meet monthly in the large Lecture Hall over the Central Office for the purpose of a comparison of the experience and work of the Ward Associations. This association of all the workers of the society into one body, for comparison of experience and advice, seems most judicious, and cannot fail to promote the operations of the society. Uniformity and an ascertainment of the best methods used in the various wards will be secured. The directors and visitors of the ward associations will come in contact, and a better understanding of the questions and difficulties in the local administration will follow. The different standpoints, too, from which men and women naturally view questions will be of much value often in the special light that will be thrown upon subjects before the Assembly. By the former plan the Ward Associations and the Central Board were placed on different levels, in which the great mass of workers were separate, and the unity of interest in consequence was not sufficiently appreciated. This difference has been removed through the Assembly. The Board of Directors, in which the executive power is vested, is over two-thirds smaller than the former Central Board, and as it has full authority and control it will be the efficient head required in so large an organization. The digests of the committees and the discussions in the Assembly will be the means of affording the fullest light and information to the Board of Directors, and aid them in conducting the affairs of the society. This society has the peculiar advantage of uniting the thinkers and practical workers in the questions of charitable and social economy, and, as its constituency is co-extensive with the city, its probable value and its elevating influences upon the community, if the members remain as earnest and as faithful as heretofore, can hardly be overestimated.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD.

On January 7th, 1879, the Board appointed Dr. Charles W. Dulles Physician for the Association; his report shows that 29 persons had been attended and 139 visits paid.

The patients were found in 20 families, in two there were 3 persons treated, in five 2 persons, in the remaining 13, one each.

The necessity for the extension of charitable relief was occasioned in one case by financial reverses, in five by abuse of alcoholic stimulants, in four by old age, in six by larger families than the workers could well support, in five by want of employment, in one by desertion of a husband, in six by general mismanagement and in one by fraud.

Added to these causes may be the bad hygienic condition of certain parts of the Ward, the most notable being found in the row of houses upon "St. James Place," west of 32nd street.

The attention of the Board of Health was called some months ago to the dangers threatened by the emanations from a hollow to the west of these houses, and it is pleasant to record that this place has since been filled up.

The experience of the past season has fully demonstrated the advantage of this addition to the work contemplated by the Society.

The report of the physician has satisfied us that this Ward has set an example which others would find advantageous to imitate; for in addition to the direct gifts of medicines and attendance to the beneficiaries, there is gathered information in regard to the poor that is of much value to the dispensers of other relief.

When the Board appointed the physician, one of the objects contemplated was the medical investigation of cases in which aid was asked because of disease or physical disability to earn a living; this information promptly acted upon by the community would utterly banish from our streets and doors those wretched creatures with seeming deformities or injuries, who so often disgust the charitable in whom they excite false sympathy for well-simulated affections. Real misfortunes would then secure prompt relief, and impositions would be exposed.

The cost of medicines to September 17th, 1879, \$11.70; after that, \$13.34, total amount expended for medicines, \$25.04.

THE ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly held its first meeting on the 1st. instant, and organized by the choice of Dr. H. Lenox Hodge as President, Messrs. Joshua L. Bailly, Philip C. Garrett and Thomas S. Harrison as Vice Presidents, and Mr. Albert B. Williams as Secretary. Our limits forbid our doing more than naming the subjects considered, which were:—"The proper functions of the Superintendents," and "What work among children is most desirable." The attendance was large and interested, and the occasion augured well for the usefulness and attractiveness of this new departure in the Society's methods.

CASES.

CASE 8. A suggestive account is given of a depraved family, with an invalid child, to whom a visitor presented some flowering plants. At her first visits she had seen no evidence of ambition, neatness or good housekeeping. Subsequent visits showed that, in order to benefit the flowers, the window panes had been cleaned so as to admit more sun and light. This was not only of great advantage also to the invalid, but it revealed to the mother the filthy condition of the apartment, and incited her to cleaner habits. It showed, besides, the broken state of the furniture, and induced the drunken father to make some repairs. This led him to remain with his family in the evenings, instead of spending his time and money in drinking. Thus, gradually, a desolate home was made cheerful, and a degraded family lifted to self-respect and independence.

CASE 9. In one of the newly organized Associations, one of the earliest cases was that of a woman with a daughter at death's door with consumption. The mother wanted a few groceries, and said that she had only enough money saved up to bury her daughter.

The girl died in a day or two after the application, but the Superintendent discovered, just at that time, that the mother had over \$400 on deposit with a gentleman in the ward.

CASE 10. In the same ward, application was received for aid from another woman, and upon investigation it was found that she owned, clear of encumbrances, a house worth not less than \$1,500.

LOANS.

CASE 11. Loans in the Fifth Ward. A woman whose aunt died destitute. Relatives were about applying to the Guardians of the Poor for interment. A loan of seven dollars, which has been since paid in full, was made by the Committee, rendering the application to the Guardian unnecessary.

CASE 12. Two dollars were loaned a widow to go to a situation at Atlantic City. Her employer did not keep his engagement with her, and a sick child prevented her repaying the advance, but friends paid it for her.

CASE 13. Ten dollars loaned to an industrious tailor in arrears for rent, owing to sickness. The man was about to be distrained for rent, when the Committee advanced him the money, which he has been steadily paying back in small installments. He has regular employment.

CASE 14. A loan of ten dollars to a traveling variety singer bearing letters of recommendation from a Charitable Society of New York. The Committee were suspicious of the case, but loaned the money on the personal security of some friends. The singer paid one installment of fifty cents, and then ceased, but her securities reimbursed the Association.

CASE 15. Loan of six dollars to enable a woman to take a sewing machine out of pawn. This loan was promptly repaid, the two last installments before they were due, and the woman is making a comfortable livelihood.

CASE 16. Five dollars loaned to an old man over 80 years of age, sickness having compelled him to use up his stock in trade. He wished to start his business again, and will repay the loan out of the proceeds of a pension.

CASE 17. Three dollars were loaned without security to enable a poor woman to secure rooms by paying advance rent. The Visitors have helped the woman to get employment and she has repaid the loan and maintained her family by her own exertions.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday, Dec. 22, 8 P.M. Board of Directors, 1429 Market Street.
 " Jan. 5, " Assembly, "
 " Jan. 12, 10 A.M. Women's General Conference, "
 " " 8 P.M. Board of Directors, "

OFFICES OF THE WARD ASSOCIATIONS.

WARD.	LOCATION.	HOURS.	SUPERINTENDENT.
1.			
2.	1102 S. 5th, S. W. cor. Wash. ave.	10 to 12 and 2 to 5.	Thomas O. Webb.
3.	718 Catharine street.	1 to 4 P.M. Sat. only.	Frederick Anne, Jr.
4.	619 Alaska street.	9 to 12 and 2 to 4.	Alpheus K. Long.
5.	338 Griscom st.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	Samuel Scattergood.
6.	416 Rice street.	9 to 12 A. M.	Miss Cornelia Hancock.
7.	1420 Lombard street.	8 to 10 A. M.	Lewis G. Mytinger.
8.	243 South Fifteenth street.	8 to 10 and 4 to 5.	W. Wyman.
9.	1425 Market street.	11 to 1 and 5 to 7.	Dr. E. P. Jefferis.
10.	1500 Vine street.	11 to 1 and 4 to 6.	Samuel T. Altemus.
11.	817 North Fourth street.		R. O. Jefferis.
12.	do.		do.
13.	730 Green street.	11 to 2 and 5 to 7.	W. H. Parmenter.
14.	1228 Ridge avenue.	1 to 6½ P. M.	Charles Kelley.
15.	1902 Brown street.	9 to 11 and 3 to 5.	Dr. James W. Walk.
16.	1035 North Third street.	9 to 12 A. M.	Charles M. G. Felten.
17.			
18.	439 East Thompson street.	11 to 12, 4 to 5.	Dr. A. H. Hulshizer.
19.			
20.	1420 North Eighth, second floor.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	W. W. Miller.
21.			
22.	No. 4 Harvey street.	2 to 6 P. M.	Robert Coulter.
23.	Union Hall cor. Paul & Oxford sts.	2 to 4 Tu. and Sat.	Mrs. J. R. Savage.
24.			
25.			
26.			
27.	257 South Thirty-seventh street.	9 to 1 and 6 to 7.	Rev. F. C. Pearson.
28.	1947 North Thirteenth street.	12 to 2 and 6 to 7.	Dr. J. B. Kniffin.
29.	1910 Master street.	11 to 12 and 5 to 6.	Dr. E. R. Stone.
30.	2035 Christian street.	8 to 11 and 6 to 7.	W. D. Thomas.
31.	2307 Frankford avenue.	11 to 12 and 4 to 5.	Dr. Joshua Allen.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President, Hon. Wm. S. Stokley, Mayor (ex-officio.)
 Treasurer, Horace Howard Furness, 222 West Washington Square.
 General Secretary, Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D.
 Assistant General Secretary, Charles D. Kellogg.

Central Offices, 1429 Market Street.

Central Employment Bureau, 1427 Market Street.

Dr. E. P. Jefferis, Superintendent.

*The aim of this Society is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the Poor. Annual Memberships \$5; Life Memberships \$500. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Ass't Gen'l Secretary, (see above).

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 15, 1880.

[No. 3.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

EDITORIAL.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE REGISTER, with its young voice, ventures to wish its readers and friends, "a happy new year." If thoughtful work for humanity brings strength and grace and joy to the heart. THE REGISTER will count it a great privilege to participate in directing earnest spirits to these springs of health and usefulness, according as it may have the intelligence and ability to do this service. To it, and to the Society which authorizes it to speak, no disinterested endeavors to help the wretched, the unfortunate and the destitute, are without deep interest. It will be glad to record on its pages the action of any Society aiming to soften the hardships of men and to put the needy in possession of temporal, social and moral weal. It will cordially disseminate all information in its reach concerning successful methods of improving the condition of the depressed. Its desire is that all charitable hearts and all beneficent enterprises should have the highest efficiency and do the most permanent good. It would like to be read, to be instructed by the experience of workers and thinkers in the field of charity, to serve not only the interests of the "Charity Organization Society," but those of every Association to improve the condition of the poor. In all this, it but represents the minds of the Society, whose servant it is.

It is earnestly hoped that THE REGISTER, will, at least, find its way to the fire-side of every Officer, Director, Visitor and Contributor in the Charity Organization Society, and prove of such worth there as to receive a welcome every month. If it may help in diffusing deeper conceptions of the duty of the strong to help the weak, if it may help in showing methods by which not only alms-giving may be most safely done, but hope and thrift and self-government and character may be imparted to the discouraged and spiritually impoverished, if it may help to keep of one mind and spirit all associated workers for human improvement, it will, so far, fulfil its aim of making the coming year one of greater personal usefulness and earnestness, and thus of blessing the lives of those who read it.

Newspapers are the greatest preachers of this age, and in this character the REGISTER urges Superintendents, Visitors and Directors not to let their enthusiasm wane, but rather turn to persistency in the good work. Let no experience of stolidity among the poor, of inveteracy, of evil habits, of good slowly and arduously achieved, discourage any worker.

The determination to gather wisdom, to learn from the experience of others, to work, not asking to see the harvest, but resolutely to sow and till, will bring us on towards the mead of increased usefulness and the approval of the good.

Our undertaking is as grave and difficult as it is noble. It is not to mitigate the sufferings of the improvident and unfortunate, but to discover and dry up the springs of misery, and, as far as may be, to make it disappear from our community. Such a work is a radical cure, and it is worth our hard study, and our personal devotion, and our persevering and hopeful toil. These aims will command a wide respect and sympathy in Philadelphia, which is full of benevolent hearts, and of which the charities are munificent and constant. When the day comes that all lovers of mankind shall be of one purpose and bring their endeavors to do good in-

to concord and due harmony of action, there are enough energy and recuperative power in this good city to cure its worst social evils and adorn it with a happy, thrifty and virtuous population. May the New Year advance us many steps towards this desirable result.

FALSE CRITICISMS.

Charity organizationists have seen from the beginning that their work would encounter much criticism from heedless, and even from earnest people, on account of the false standards of charity in the community. Our Philadelphia Society cannot hope to escape much censure, until the public is willing to understand its aims and to accept new tests of its usefulness. The wrong idea, which persistently affects most minds, is that charity consists in almsgiving, and that societies to work among the poor are bound to distribute as much of their income as possible in the abodes of penury. Charity societies have themselves fostered this feeling by increasing the number of their beneficiaries to the largest limits, by boasting of the slight cost of administering their relief, and by asking support upon these grounds. Now, charity organization goes on exactly the opposite principles. It assumes that the need of almsgiving is always a sign of wretchedness in a community, and that every true instinct of humanity prompts men to end the public distress, and thus, as far as practicable, put a stop to charitable relief. It insists that an injury is done to the individual, and, therefore, a source of corruption opened in society, whenever a person is needlessly led to depend on alms for what his own industry or frugality can command. It claims that the chief want now in the distribution of relief is its proper administration, and it proposes to supply that defect and to spend its money in that endeavor. In the London Society, the Central Office declines to give any relief whatever, and what it spends upon beggars directly, is in the way of investigating them and reporting upon their merits. In the Boston Associated Charities, nearly the entire revenue is spent in administration, and the Buffalo Society advertises that it does not give relief, and its expenses are chiefly for offices and investigation.

The community will not judge rightly until it perceives that the highest aim of charity is to do away with the necessity for it; that the best expenditure of money in behalf of the poor is that which teaches them not to depend on alms; that it is an imperative duty of society to see that the poor are not injured and corrupted by false systems of relief; and that the truest test of success is in reducing the list of dependents, in spending less in alms and more in diffusing correct notions of duty, as well among the supporters, as the recipients of charity.

One of the best results of last year's work in our Society must be sought in the dissemination of truer ideas of charity and sounder standards of criticism. Hundreds of citizens of Philadelphia have seen more clearly into the social problem of pauperism for the existence of our Society; they have formed juster conceptions of what is required among the poor, and the Society constantly challenges attention to its principles by its peculiar methods, and so educates the public mind.

OUR EXPENSES.

An analysis of the expenses of the Central Office of this Society as given in the last Annual Report, may not be uninteresting to its friends. The total receipts from the beginning, covering fifteen months were \$7,828.74. Of this sum, \$1,100.79 was expended for outfits of Ward Associations, and was reimbursed to the Society by them, and, therefore, forms no part of the contributions of benevolent individuals. There was donated especially for the Manual \$587.52, and over this expenditure the

Society had no control. There was given to Ward Associations and for special relief \$320.73, comprising all demands made upon the general treasury, and there remained as cash on hand \$145.70. Deducting these amounts (\$2,154.74) from the total receipts, \$5,674.00 are left as the expenses of the Central Office for fifteen months, or at the rate of \$4,539.20 a year.

The chief work of that fifteen months consisted in establishing a general system of registration to prevent duplicate giving and vagrant begging; in correspondence with kindred Societies in Great Britain and America and with State Boards of Charity, with a view to a comparison of principles and methods, and to securing a library of authentic information; in printing papers and tracts for the instruction of the community; in holding conferences and meetings for the diffusion of information; and especially, in organizing twenty-three Ward Associations, one other ward having been organized several years. This organizing work was peculiarly arduous, involving many inquiries, interviews, despatch of circulars and invitations, conferences and meetings, to establish both the branches; male and female, of a Ward Association. If all the expenses of the Central Office are reckoned as incurred on account of this work of organization, it would make the average cost to the Society of establishing a Ward Association, \$246.69. This has given us agencies in nearly every ward of the city, watched over by 300 directors, reinforced by a corps of Visitors comprising over 1,000 members, and sustained by over 7,500 contributors and adherents. In all this vast territory, with over 600,000 souls, there is scarcely a precinct unwatched and uncared for. Considering that all this work of organization had to be initiated as an entirely new movement, involving new conceptions of charity, and new self-restraints in its administration, the Society may judge whether it has not attained large results at a comparatively small cost.

EDUCATIONAL CHARACTER OF OUR WORK.

A speaker at one of the ward meetings, referring to a specious objection sometimes made to the working of our Society, called attention to our excellent public school system as furnishing a better parallel to a charity organization society than is to be found in organizations whose main or only purpose is the relief of destitution. We have in this city some four hundred and forty schools, conducted by a large body of hard-worked teachers. The chief source of current expense in these schools is for salaries. Now, in addition to the four hundred and forty schools, our Society aims at establishing one more in each ward of the city. These new schools are to take in hand larger bodies of pupils than do those others, and of a much less teachable class. They are to teach the elements of social duty to the thriftless and dependent classes, and to give them lessons in practical economy, which may make them useful and independent members of society. Of course the work will be slow; all genuine education is a slow and not a showy operation. No teacher ever saw a class of fresh scholars without wondering how all the studies of the curriculum could be got into their heads. But the steady pressure of educational influence, though in itself as palpable as the air, does in the long run mould mind and will to the formation of character, and when the teachers are faithful to their calling, does produce results which could not have been predicted by those who had not witnessed such transformation. To this educational work, upon a body of scholars much less teachable than youth, our Society has summoned a body of the best womanhood that Philadelphia has to show. Teachers whose social weight, varied accomplishments, and enthusiasm for their work are such as the city treasury could not command for its educational services. No exhibit of dollars in the reports of our treasuries can furnish us with any gauge of the extent and the value of this agency. Had we merely to pay at ordinary business rates for the time spent in personal work among the poor, to say nothing of that given by the gentlemen to business management, our receipts would have to be multiplied manifold. But instead, we have a single paid official, a Superintendent, in each of these great ward schools.

THE REGISTER.

We take the liberty of reminding the Officers, Directors and Visitors of our Ward Associations, that a chief object in issuing this periodical is to collect and disseminate the best practical hints for meeting the various obstacles that daily occur in our Ward work, as well as to publish the latest and best thought and experience in all kinds of benevolent activity.

The MONTHLY REGISTER is designed to be a practical and efficient aid

in accomplishing these results. We hope every worker and friend of the Society will each promptly subscribe for one copy or more. Subscriptions may be made through the Ward Superintendents or Secretaries or at the Central Office. Also, we desire that Ward Directors and Visitors' Corps will freely apply for the use of its columns to recount their difficulties and chronicle their encouragements and success.

REPORTS.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT.

(CONDENSED FROM A PAPER READ BEFORE THE VISITORS' CENTRAL CONFERENCE.) To give work is the best way to relieve want and suppress begging. Make a man industrious, and all his moral qualities are likely to thrive. But the task of finding and giving work fairly bristles with difficulties.

Light Employment for the Aged. Old women may employ themselves in two ways; the sewing of carpet rags and the knitting of hose. Why could not the wards contract with the asylums and children's homes, to supply knit hose? The yarn could be given out in the spring, and all the long summer days those who hitherto have sat with folded hands on door-steps could wield the flying needles to provide for winter comforts. The sewing of carpet rags would employ old men as well as women and children. The various wards could solicit gifts of rags from families, dress-makers and tailors. The poor could be paid the usual rates (10 cts a ball) for cutting them, and children could sort them in the upper rooms of ward offices, under the supervision of ladies, the labor enlivened, perhaps, with stories and with singing in unison. Among the old men applying, some weavers would probably be found. The sale of carpets, when done, would reimburse the ward Association its expense.

Slight tasks for those unfit for hard work.—Many housekeepers would be glad for helping hands on busy washing and ironing days. The cost of a skilled laundress on these days amounts to the wages of another servant, while the family cannot afford to feed another mouth. Cook and housemaid could do all the family washing quite well if unimpeded by the interruptions of washing steps and sweeping pavement, running to Monday's incessant door-bell, washing breakfast things, making beds, etc. The house-mother weighted by the cares of the children, and perhaps the sewing, can make no headway when she must help in some of the above named cares on wash-day. Why could not their requests for help be registered and the seekers for charity be employed regularly each week as needed, for one or two hours, as the case required? Some families might be glad to have the furnace fires tended daily. Others would need the pavement cleaned on Saturdays, and the back yard scrubbed. Perhaps a whole street would sometimes engage such help. The objection to bringing strangers and perhaps thieves into the family would be overruled by ward investigation of character, and so a premium would be put upon good conduct. In some families little interchanges of services and supplies between themselves and poorer neighbors have been used with mutual advantage.

The poor on the downward track of no work and scant diet grow un-energetic and hopeless. They wear their shoes out seeking work. They feel that their shabby clothes do not inspire confidence, and they need mediation, such as a well-organized Employment Bureau could give them.

The constant appeal for family washing in the visited districts, starts the subject of *establishing a laundry*. Only the bed and table linen of families could be taken. Such plain work would not require skilled labor and it would be quite easy to keep each lot separate. The kitchen and yards of ward offices could be used. A very slight outlay would purchase the necessary implements. Women for each day could be employed by the day or half-day and so 6 to 12 poor women could have work each week. If the plan succeeded, the mending of the table cloths, the reversing of worn sheets and even the removal of fruit stains could be added.

Giving sewing to the poor.—Contracts for work could be made with educational homes and other institutions in the various wards. This, in fact, was carried out for a short time in one of the wards, but ceased just as soon as the poor women were counting on it for summer work and hoping to earn money for the coming winter.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The ASSEMBLY of this Society, held its second monthly meeting on the evening of the 5th inst., at the Lecture Hall over the Central Offices, the president Dr. H. L. Hodge in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read by the Secretary Mr. Albert B. Williams, the chair reported from the Board of Directors, that the matter of Public Poor Relief which the Assembly had referred to them, was in charge of a special committee which had the subject under careful advisement. The By-laws prepared for the guidance of the Assembly were also reported by the Secretary.

The topic of the evening being announced as "the Work of our Women Visitors among the Homes of the Poor,"

Mrs. S. I. Leslie of 7th Ward spoke of their other duties than alms-giving, the latter being quite subservient to the higher work devolving upon Visitors. Many fear our theories cannot be carried out, but so the world said about the Sermon on the Mount and the Declaration of Independence; but the possibilities and influence of them have moulded the world, and of neither are yet exhausted. The principles of organized charity are not human, but divine; and here and now are providential, coming just when needed; but though divine must be carried out by human means. Old

alms-giving habits are strong and hard to break, but we must use our hearts and our intelligence in the effort. Visitors should take an interest in the children of applying families, should suggest the best succor and diet for cases of sickness, open to them their own resources, and in every way aid them to secure to themselves Heaven's best influences in their depressed lives. So many of the poor are ignorant of family duties because marrying too young; teach them devotedly and kindly, and lend them the personal influence and comfort of character. Organized charity principles are as old as human laws but have been lost sight of, and the novelty now is to re-apply them. Keep in mind the need of *thorough* investigation, and of such co-operation as will prevent overlapping. Aim at the minimum of alms and doles which debase, and the maximum of personal influence and sympathy which elevate the depressed. With such efforts, our principles are sure to grow and overspread the world.

Mr. Atwood, of the Union Benevolent Association, recalled how Cato's son ruled the world; for while Rome was its acknowledged mistress, he ruled Rome, his wife ruled him, and their son ruled her; and this shows the possibility in the life of any child. Though no Cato is here, the ranks of the poor in this land furnish an equal number of influential minds with those of the rich. The children of the debauched and debased should be taken from them and placed under good influences. Those of the worthy poor meet great harm in bad neighborhood associations, in being ill-clad, poorly fed, in health impaired by privations, all tending to debasement and great mortality. They need education in habits of cleanliness and thrift, for what wonder that under such burdens they grow up stunted, ignorant and vicious. Yet many have germs of usefulness, and Visitors should use every effort to save and elevate them. Faithful work by the Visitors will give strength to the weak, knowledge to the ignorant, and light and cheer to those in darkness and distrust; will issue in purer homes, better health, in thrift and respectability. The Society asks of each Visitor an intelligent conception of her duty, and a courage that will not fear of being unequal to the task.

Dr. Henry T. Child alluded to the benefit of personal influence over the poor, and the great educational benefit to both Visitor and those visited.

Mrs. John Lucas of the 10th Ward said that the Visitors themselves gain great benefit from intercourse with the poor, and she was indebted to the Society for many pleasant acquaintances formed in doing its work among her poorer neighbors. She gave instances of gratifying success in the elevation of special cases; and also described an entertainment lately given by the 10th Ward Visitors to about 600 members of families under their care, all stimulated by it to increased tidiness and improved demeanor.

Prof. Robt. Ellis Thompson reiterated that organized charity was very old; even here the two leading general relief Societies started under these principles, but have swerved from them. The Bible emphasises the work as to be done to our "neighbors"; those near us who toil for our comfort, whose work is in our houses, our food, our garments, and about whom we have lost our consciousness of their existence, and consider them too much as only pins and wheels in a huge machine. We aim to restore the old principle of loving our neighbor as ourselves, and the greatest blessing the Visitor can carry is to brighten the family life of the poor, to turn the hearts of fathers to their children and children to their fathers. The lives of many of them are pure, but surrounded by difficulties and trials, and the lack of orderly family life is a great root of evil among them. Our best work is done by our Visitors. One Ward claims to have elevated one half of their dependent families above the need of help. This may seem large, but other wards show great gain. This work has in it the germ of every good to the poor, and cannot but tend to raise them from sordidness to independence and respect.

Miss Dodson of the 30th Ward alluded to the influence Visitors could exert over the parents by working through their children.

Mr. J. R. Sypher of the 27th Ward referred to the recent newspaper criticisms upon our expenditures, and the excellent idea the critics had of what should be done, combined with great ignorance of what is actually being done. In the matter of repressing mendicancy and discovering the really poor, and aiding them in the most adequate and judicious manner, this Society offers the only machinery existing in the city, and it will continue to be the best until wiser men suggest better ways.

Dr. C. E. Cadwalader of the 5th Ward gave some illustrative cases showing upon what slender resources of their own, supplemented by such help as stimulated instead of enervating them, some depressed families in that Ward had been tided over temporary embarrassments.

Mr. Samuel Huston of the 10th Ward, reported from the Philadelphia Soup Society, one of our co-operating charities for which our Ward Associations investigate, that upon their first day of this season they had saved three-fourths of their usual expenditure of bread and soup, through thorough investigation.

Dr. E. P. Jefferis of the 9th Ward office alluded to the need of freer comparison of views between the visitors and the superintendents, and the evidence in that Ward that the less the visitors have to do with mere relief the greater is their influence over the poor.

Mr. Chas. T. Holme of the 23d Ward reported a vast benefit to the poor of that Ward. Their applications have been cut down from 70 a day to less than 10 by sifting out impostors and restoring the worthy to independence. The Guardians of the Poor in that ward work entirely through the Ward Association, and apply their relief to cases designated by the latter, and by the co-operation have reduced their expenditures from about \$6,000 to less than \$2,000.

Mr. G. K. Cross of the 2d Ward enquired how the flagging interest of discouraged Visitors could be maintained, and at request of the chair,

Mrs. Leslie advised such Visitors to attend the visitors meetings in the more successful wards, where they would always be welcome, gain information, and receive enthusiasm and encouragement. This fellow-feeling

gained by contact with other wards is a great remedy, and further illustrates our co-operative and concentrating principles.

Mrs. John Lucas spoke farther of the difficulties among women who do not know how to do anything well, this ignorance being the root of a vast amount of poverty, and made valuable suggestions for the Visitors in such cases.

Mr. J. L. Baily of the House of Industry referred farther to the criticisms of the daily press upon the expenses of the Central Office, and explained again that all such expenses were met out of a fund of \$10,000 subscribed for *that very purpose*, and that not one dollar contributed for the poor had been diverted to other objects.

Further brief remarks were made by Miss Hallowell of the 7th Ward, Mr. Baker of the 15th Ward and others, after which the Assembly by a vote requested the Chair to nominate the members of the Committees called for in the By-Laws. These Committees are eleven in number, viz:

On Arrangements,

" Visitation and Women's Work,

" Employment,

" Means of Promoting Provident Habits,

" Medical Charities,

" Education and the Care of Children,

" Care of Defective Classes,

" Hygiene and Sanitary Measures, Dwellings of the Poor and Construction of Buildings,

On Penal and Reformatory Institutions,

" Legal Protection of the Poor,

" Pauperism, and Vagrancy and their Causes:

and in regard to the composition of these Committees, the Chair asked the members of the Assembly to favor him with their suggestions at their early convenience, in view of the importance of the subjects to be entrusted to them. The meeting then adjourned.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FROM ITS MINUTES OF DEC. 8, 1879.

Most of the Ward Associations which were in operation the past year have entered upon the winter's work with energy and increased appreciation of the true spirit of our aims. There have been changes in the superintendence of five of the Ward Offices, the new incumbents giving general promise of zeal and faithfulness in their work.

Since the new year of the Society came in, new Associations have been formed in the 18th, 19th, 28th and 31st Wards, leaving only the 17th and 25th Wards now unoccupied, if we except two other Wards where the Associations are under present embarrassment, but with hope of early improvement.

It is suggested that effective Public Meetings might be held in various sections of the City by groups of wards (as e. g. the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th., the 5th, 7th, and 8th., the 18th, 19th, and 31st., etc.), for encouragement to renewed effort, and for interesting citizens yet unacquainted with our aims and principles. They could be made much more attractive than separate Ward Meetings, and the neighborly stimulus of adjacent wards would be felt in provoking to good works.

The sum of \$200 was contributed by the 8th Ward in January last for the help of four specified Wards where poverty is in excess of the provisions for its relief; one of the Wards so specified was the 19th., to whose citizens this gift was named as an encouragement when their Association was forming. Their organization being now complete, a fourth of this amount was ordered to be paid to their treasurer.

A communication has been received from the Roller Skating Co., offering to the Society the receipts of the Rink for any day and evening to be selected by conference with them.

Perhaps the greatest embarrassment to the intelligent work of the Ward Superintendents is to be found in their limited time for reading and studying into our principles, and of knowing all the benefits and opportunities of co-operation with local charitable agencies. The Superintendents' fortnightly meetings are intended to supply this very lack. The meetings are presided over by a member of this Board, and nothing would tend more to securing harmonious and effective work from the Superintendents, than that they should all be present at these gatherings, to compare methods and tell of their difficulties and successes.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

Union Benevolent Association.—The following statistics show the work accomplished by this Association during the month of December, 1879: Families visited, 870; families relieved, 662; undeserving, 208; orders for groceries given out, 137; orders for coal amounting to 177½ tons; stoves loaned, 44; money expended in relief, \$250.57; money expended in relief from private sources, \$178.03; making a total of \$428.50. Garments distributed, 275; sick administered to, 40; deaths attended upon, 2; situations obtained, 5. In addition to these supplies there were distributed by the Association, shoes, canned fruits, jelly, grapes, milk, Bibles, Testaments, tracts, etc. It is stated that all money contributed to this Association is applied directly to the relief of the poor, none of it being used for paying salaries or office expenses, which are provided for from other sources. Contributions of clothing, new and second-hand, shoes, groceries, vegetables, etc., are needed, and the receipt of such articles will be acknowledged and thankfully received at the office, No. 118 South Seventh street.

Steps are being taken to establish in Philadelphia a Society for the suppression of vice and crime, similar to those in the cities of New York, New Haven, and elsewhere. The purpose of this Society will be the broad

and at the same time, definite one of securing the execution of existing laws, and procuring better laws if needed, to extinguish haunts of vice, and schools of immorality and crime.

The Buffalo Charity Organization Society has received the offer of a gift of a piece of property valued at \$20,000, for the purposes of a Creche. This charity has been under consideration for some months, and a prospective plan decided upon which embraces the best features of foreign and home institutions of the kind; and this timely offer, coupled with conditions which can be fully and readily complied with, assures the success of the enterprise. Such establishments, commensurate with the impoverished population of Philadelphia, are greatly needed here, and the present Day Nurseries offer admirable foundations upon which to build them. What citizen among us will enable a Creche of proper magnitude to be started here?

The C. O. S. of Buffalo has had marked success from the outset, and has done much to elevate and redeem the poor and depressed of that City.

The District Conference of the Boston Association Charities, in Ward 6, opened "work rooms for women" last summer. A brief and graphic account thereof will be found in the following extract from the first report :

RULES.

1. An applicant must be registered and visited.
2. She must be strictly temperate.
3. She must be honest and truthful.
4. She must consent to open a bank account here, and deposit one cent, at least, at each payment for work. She is advised to deposit five cents.
5. She must cheerfully submit to receive instructions from the Matron, in needle-work, if necessary.
6. She will be entitled to fifty cents' worth of work a week, if she really needs employment here, and has failed, after suitable effort, to secure it elsewhere.

Mrs. L. A. Morrison, of Boston, was the mistress of this room, and superintendent of the work, with a salary of twenty-five dollars a month; and most admirably has her duty been discharged. Without assistance, all through the hot summer days, this self-denying woman has remained at her post, taking no vacation; and the amount she has accomplished seems almost incredible. She has cut 1,437 garments, which afforded constant employment to sixty-six poor women, and partial employment to about fifty others. There were fifty-three applicants for permanent situations; and Mrs. Morrison secured such for most of those who were really fitted for them. She visited each one in her own home, listened to her pitiful story, and gave practical suggestions concerning personal and domestic cleanliness and order, which effected a marked improvement, and created in sluggish minds a real ambition to make the home, however stricken with poverty, a home indeed.

Every one who contributed to these rooms should have been there to see the poor women come in. Such faces! haggard, desperate, hopeless; a fresh revelation always. To human wrecks we are never accustomed or reconciled. But encouragement and discipline did their work, as was evinced by the changed looks and the odd expressions of gratitude.

Every one was obliged to sew well, and not a few who came there wholly incapable, were able at the close of the season to graduate as respectable seamstresses.

One woman, in the depths of her gratitude, took a huge bundle of finished garments, and peddled them out at fair prices among her acquaintances, thereby realizing twenty-seven dollars for the treasury of the Rooms. Another exclaimed: "After all, 'tain't the money only I get for the work I do: it's the smile and the pleasant word, whenever I go." She spoke for many another besides herself. One weary creature says "Coming into that room, and seeing them flowers, and hearing them birds, takes the tired right out of me." And another, "I don't know what *would* have become of us all this summer but for the Work-Rooms. My husband was sick; but my rent must be paid, and my children fed." This, too, is a representative case. Another says: "The Work-Room was an open door of hope to me." She always looked forward with pleasure to the day when she carried back her work; for that was the one day of the week when she was sure to get a gleam of sunshine.

"The Worker" is the name of a new little monthly published in New York, devoted to the colonization of unemployed persons in the city, on farms, with practical regard to co-operation. Its editor is Rev. R. H. Newton, formerly of Philadelphia.

GENERAL HINTS.

TO EVERY STRANGER asking relief on the streets or at your door, give one of the Society's tickets, and send applicant to the nearest Ward Office. Giving to strangers without rigid investigation only encourages imposture and crime. Persons presenting one of these tickets at the Ward Office will be promptly and kindly aided, in urgent cases pending investigation; and afterwards, if found worthy, the most appropriate available relief will be procured for their permanent benefit. When requested to do so, the Ward Superintendent will report the result of the investigation. Tickets may be had at your own Ward Office, where all citizens are invited to call and inspect our methods.

Applicants at unseasonable hours, who state they are homeless and hungry, are mostly impostors, who choose that time hoping to receive money. For all such the station house is the proper place.

If a sober and apparently respectable man asks at unseasonable hours for means to procure lodgings and meals, give no money but send him to the House of Industry, 716 Catharine Street, with a request for one night's lodging and a meal at the discretion of the matron, but do not repeat it, except through the Ward Association, and if they advise it after investigation.

Girls and women calling at houses with baskets to beg for food should be refused, unless they can bring a recommendation from their Ward Superintendent. A majority of them are runners for the hash shops of Alaska and St. Mary's Streets, and purchase means of self-indulgence with the gifts of the benevolent.

Those seeking employment should be referred to your Ward Office, or to the Central Employment Bureau, 1427 Market Street.

If you see a homeless innocent young girl, or one seeking reformation, send her to the nearest Reformatory or Boarding and Lodging House named in our Manual.

For destitute children who are orphans or half-orphans, there are abundant refuges to be found by the aid of our Manual; or, cases may be referred to the Ward Association, whose Directors will give every assistance for permanently disposing of them.

Children without parents and old enough to be of service or useful in a private home, should be referred to the Home Missionary Society whose excellent agent, Mr. Toland, has procured good homes for many hundreds of children.

If cases of sickness are brought to your notice consult this Society's Manual as to the nearest proper Medical Charity, to whom to refer them for advice and medicines. There are abundant resources of this kind on every side, and no one need suffer an hour for their lack, and no one need give any applicant money for this purpose.

In case of a drunken parent treating children with cruelty, communicate at once with the Society to Protect Children from Cruelty, 1408 Chestnut Street.

EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Milwaukee, January 5th, 1880.

I have received the Report of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, etc. Allow me to thank you for giving an opportunity to me of knowing that a Society is formed which considers *investigation* the first principle in real charitable work, and helping the weak to grow strong, the second principle. I have long believed that indiscriminate giving is productive of more harm than good; and that careless investigation and easy giving are only second to it. Accepting what has *not been earned*, opens a broad door towards deterioration. Is not that largely the secret of the failure of the sons of rich men? Is it not a *law*? (Mrs. John Hiles, of "Home of the Friendless," Milwaukee, Wisconsin.)

From Alsager Hay Hill, Esq., a well-known Charity-worker of London to one of our Society recently calling, upon him.

Dear Sir:—In response to your invitation this morning, I place in writing a few of the general conclusions I have arrived at from some ten years work at Charity Organization. In the first place, *the fullest possible inquiry before giving* has been almost universally vindicated, and naturally the value of the inquiry depends much on the quality and character of your Superintendent. Here in London, in my opinion we have not yet succeeded in getting persons of sufficiently high education and experience to take up the work of Charity Agents; and without the Missionary Spirit, or as it is now more commonly designated the "enthusiasm of humanity," no thorough results can be obtained.

The delay which necessarily occurs between the date of application and the decision of the Committee seems unavoidable, and in some cases seems to the person concerned to savour of injustice, but I am disposed to think that the selection of a really good man to take down the particulars of applicants may prevent many complaints on this score.

After full inquiry and deliberation on the part of the Committee, the giving of *really adequate* assistance rather than partial, has been found an essential condition for temporary aid proving of permanent service, and a special appeal to a Central body has been found very useful. I have here been treating of the cases of the settled and residential poor; and great and special difficulties beset us in the treatment of the unsettled or "homeless poor." Probably in addition to your station houses for receiving the worst cases at all hours, some Central Refuge, firmly as well as tenderly managed, would be found useful for the better class of persons. We have resort to such machinery in London, but have suffered some inconvenience from its being unavailable at certain seasons of the year. Permanent and continuous organization seems an essential of successful work.

Faithfully yours,
ALSAGER HAY HILL.

Extract from a letter from one of the original "Commission" to inaugurate this Society.

DEAR SIR.

In London the movement encounters obstacles with which ours in Philadelphia can bear no comparison in the deep-rooted conservatism of their old and effete institutions, and in the size and age of the funds in their possession, the use of which it is extremely difficult to divert, or modify in any way, even when the original object has become quite obsolete, or what is still worse, when the fund has vastly outgrown its use, leading to a very excessive and needless and, therefore, harmful administration of aid.

It is the Police Bureau which, in Berlin, is the effective instrument in preventing pauperism. A man who begs in the street is arrested. If a Prussian, and unable to earn a living, he is committed to a house of labor. If he cannot claim a settlement there, he is sent to the place of which he is a native, which must support him.

The same bureau serves the purpose of a registration office. Any citizen or society wishing to know the merits of a case making application for help, goes to the District Station where everybody is known, to ascertain the facts.

The city itself, through the police, applies certain funds, derived from confiscating, fines, etc., to the relief of the deserving poor. Shrinking and respectable poverty, of course, applies to personal friends, or is sought out by Society Visitors. In Berlin they have a mounted force throughout the city in addition to the foot police, so, also in Frankfort.

Yours Truly,

P. C. G.

NOTES.

Speaking of the influence of charity kindergartens on children who have been utterly neglected at home, the *New Education* says: "The first few days the kindergarten is like a menagerie of little wild beasts, tearing and pounding each other, talking profane and foul language, rebellious and selfish—all the vices being displayed in miniature. In a week's time order has dawned, for delightful occupations have chained attention; beautiful sights and sounds, and lovely sentiments set to music, have charmed eye and ear and heart; harmonious and dramatic plays have been organized; kind words and caresses have worked a new sense of enjoyment, and in less than a month, a little, orderly, docile, and compliant company, in which all are agreeable to each other, forming little friendships and making sacrifices." And yet there are people who fear that there are practical difficulties in establishing public kindergartens in this country, which hardly can be overcome.

TO WORKINGMEN.

Don't shut every crack and cranny to keep out the air from your rooms.
Don't forbid the blessed sun from entering your window.
Don't stay in a house that has a bad smell in it.
Don't live in dark, gloomy, close rooms if you can get sunny, cheery ones.
Is it not cheaper to pay a little more rent to keep death and the doctor away from your door? Does it not pay to keep well? *New York Monthly Record*.

WHY SOME PEOPLE ARE POOR.—Silver spoons are used to scrape kettles. Coffee, tea, pepper and spices are left to stand open and lose their strength. Potatoes in the cellar grow and the sprouts are not removed until the potatoes become worthless. Brooms are never hung up, and are soon spoiled. Nice handled knives are thrown into hot water. The flour is sifted in a wasteful manner, and the bread-pan is left with the dough sticking to it. Clothes are left on the line to whip to pieces in the wind. Tubs and barrels are left in the sun to dry and fall apart. Dried fruits are not taken care of in season, and become wormy. Rags, string and paper are thrown into the fire. Pork spoils for want of salt, and beef because the brine wants scalding. Bits of meat, vegetables, bread and cold puddings are thrown away when they might be warmed, steamed and served as good as new. *New York Monthly Record*.

A Parisian beggar woman implores charity from the Countess de V—, well knowing it will not be refused. A week after she appears on the same errand. The Countess once more assists her. Three days later a fresh call and a fresh entreaty, at which the lady appealed to expressed herself rather surprised. "Surprised at what?" tartly replies the woman; that I should come where I know I can get something? Do you think I'd go where nothing is to be had? "I wouldn't pay me." *New York Monthly Record*.

Lyman Abbott gives the following story of how cheaply a family can live in the Pennsylvania coal region: A German, with five in his family, was thrown out of employment. He owned his cottage, so that he had no rent to pay. He had in his house a little provision, and in his purse \$20. During six months he succeeded in earning \$1.25. This was all the money that he received, and he had no other help. He supported his family on the \$21.25 for six months. I asked my informant on what he lived. He could not tell me; probably on corn meal at \$1.25 a hundred, and milk, with a little fat bacon, but without tea, coffee, or sugar. *New York Monthly Record*.

As wonderful and incongruous things are done in the name of charity as were ever perpetrated in that of liberty. If always twice blessed in spirit, it is often twice cursed in effect.

If it covers a multitude of sins in those who give, it too often in another and worse sense covers a multitude of sins in those upon whom it is bestowed. To the worthless, scheming poor, it is a cloak for, and incentive to, the sins of lying and idleness, and although they do not see it in that light, it is a curse to them in that it does incite them to those sins, it makes their lives morally degraded, prevents the development of any germ of human nobility or spirit of independence that might be in their nature. *Thomas Wright*.

Give no alms to vicious persons, if such alms will support their sin, or if they will continue in idleness. "If they will not work, neither let them eat." *Jeremy Taylor*.

Never allow your love for the poor to degenerate into weak sentiment, or consider a poor man exempt in any way from doing all he can to earn for himself and his family an independent living. *T. F. Ring's Essay on the St. Vincent de Paul, read before the Catholic Union*.

You want to know the poor, to enter into their lives, their thoughts, to let them enter

into some of your brightness, to make their lives a little fuller, a little gladder. You might gladden their homes by bringing them flowers, or better still by teaching them to grow plants; you might meet them face to face as friends; you might teach them; you might collect their savings; you might sing for and with them; you might teach and refine and make them cleaner by merely going among them. *Octavia Hill*.

I have sometimes been asked by rich acquaintances, whether I do not remember the words, "Never turn your face from any poor man." I cannot help thinking that to give oneself rather than one's money to the poor, is not exactly turning one's face from him. *Octavia Hill*.

Don't let us despise enthusiasm. There is more lack of heart than of brains. We agree with the Indian, who when talked to about having too much zeal said, "I think it is better for the pot to boil over, than not to boil at all." *Congregationalist*.

Keep those whom you visit informed of their rights and duties as to removal of dust, and other sanitary provisions; and if you observe any serious sanitary defect in their houses or neighborhood, call the attention of the Medical Officer of Health, or the Inspector of Nuisances to it. *Dr. Hessey*.

The elevation of the poor in their homes! How can we help towards it? How shall we each find the one little niche we are best fitted to fill, where earnestly and humbly we may work on, catching perchance, as we work, some little glimpse of God's immortal plan of bringing all his children nearer to Him? *Louisa Lee Schuyler*.

Let the head hold in check the heart, refuse all street charity, all relief to that demoralized multitude who spend their lives in going, with artfully devised tales of woe, from house to house, and from society to society. School yourselves in more rational methods and let the time come to an end when the accomplished cheat is filled with good things, while the deserving poor are sent empty away. *Rev. S. Humphreys Gurteen, M. A.*

Mendicancy has become a profession and the study of pauperism a science. Now, the unnatural increase of the dependent classes, fostered by ourselves from a mistaken view of charity, demands, to stem its current, associated, organized effort of the highest ability; demands also, that, stripped of its false garb of alms-giving, raised from its low estimate of money value, charity itself shall be redeemed, restored, both in word and in deed to its original meaning of love. "And although I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, * * * and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing," says St. Paul. How far have we wandered from that early teaching, when we use the words charity and alms-giving as synonymous terms! *Louisa Lee Schuyler*.

The four essentials of a sound charitable system are investigation, relief, instruction and graduation. Any charity which only gives relief, without investigation, often does harm; even with investigation, mere relief falls far short of what the strong owe to the weak. But where instruction and counsel and cheer and courage are added, and can lift up any who are down, and train them in ways making self-support possible, charitable work becomes efficient for good. As soon as possible, make them find, or help them to find legitimate work, and become independent, and graduate from the rolls of charity. This is the great consummation, and when possible, makes charitable work complete and very happy. *Boston Associated Charities Paper*.

Too urgent language cannot well be used deploring the custom of giving alms to strangers, while facilities for their prompt treatment are close at hand. It is a spurious charity which deems its duty done by responding with heedless gifts to the importunities of beggars. The same sense of obligation which prompts a man to grant assistance to the unknown, lest some hardships go unalleviated, forbids us to wrong a human soul by allurements to a false career and a self-abandoned life. The extent of the mischief annually done among the poor by foolish and undiscerning alms is incalculable, and affords one of the most formidable obstacles to the improvement of depressed social conditions. Were but ten cents a week given at every other dwelling in the city to unknown beggars, it would amount to the large sum of \$300,000 a year, and who can reckon the feeble ambitions, the weak resistances to vice, the dull self-reproaches for a life of deception, that this gift would smother?

Kind hearts may well ask themselves whether the alms they heedlessly give, are not rather self-indulgence at the cost of their fellow-men, than a token of real generosity; for it is far easier to dismiss the duties of humanity with a gift, than it is to fulfill them with intelligence and patience and personal care. *Annual Report Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity*.

NOTES OF SOCIETY WORK.

FROM THE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

Can any of the readers of these notices assist in getting the applicants named therein suitable applications? If so, please communicate with Dr. E. P. Jefferis, 1427 Market Street. Office Hours, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

No. 20. A young man with family, well educated, has experience and good address, wants a position as clerk or salesman. Is well recommended.

No. 21. Man 27 years old, with crippled hand, wants position as watchman. Is well recommended, vigorous and no family.

No. 30. Young lady, educated and of refined manners, needs employment as seamstress or lady's companion. Has experience and good vouchers.

No. 45. A consumptive man, able to do light work at \$6 or \$7 a week. Has a good record as canvasser and clerk. Would be serviceable in the right place. Has large family and very destitute and employment would be great charity.

FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 15th WARD ASSOCIATION.

"In the dispensation of relief, the Committee believe that much good has been accomplished in keeping families together and preventing extreme suffering and sickness.

It was also arranged with the visitors that where a family was found worthy, a blank, with which they were furnished, should be filled, giving to each member of the family—two children counting as one adult—al or a part of the following week's supplies:—1 ounce of tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of beans, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of hominy, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. corn meal, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. oat meal, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sugar, 3 lbs. flour.

In order to test the sufficiency of this diet, two of our lady visitors made the satisfactory experiment of living for a week exclusively upon the articles and quantities furnished by the Charity, proving very conclusively that the amount, as well as the quality and variety, of the articles given have been sufficient."

FROM WEEKLY REPORT OF THE 6th WARD ASSOCIATION.

"Our work has been rather more varied this week; two children having been registered for entrance to Girard College. Two little boys were provided with a good country home. One child arrested for begging on the street was handed over to Mr. Crew, of the "Society to Protect Children from Cruelty." The disposition of this case has not yet been made known to us. There has been quite a number registered for situations, and if they fail to get work it is a higher motive to come to the office for than to ask for alms."

FROM THE 22d WARD ASSOCIATION.

SEPARATE HOMES FOR ALMSHOUSE CHILDREN.

In some respects, the 22d Ward is peculiarly fitted for experiments in charity; having, for example, a Poor Board of its own, it is able to try, on a moderate scale, a measure which a more ponderous system of machinery might not attempt, unless with a certainty of success.

The subject of separating children from the malignant influences which must needs surround them in almshouses, having claimed a great deal of attention of late, a Home for the children of the poorhouse in the 22d Ward is to be opened under the care of the Women's Auxiliary of the Charity Organizing Society. The number of children is small, and the home is to be started in a very modest and tentative way. Not, as is too often the case with such enterprises, by the erection of an expensive building and a lavish outlay of money, but at a very trifling expense, none of which is permanently invested in bricks and stone. A benevolent lady of Germantown has offered to pay the rent for one year, besides contributing handsomely to the support of the Institution. The Managers of the Poor have promptly seconded her proposition, and agreed to send the children of the Poorhouse to this Home, and pay a reasonable board for their support; and there is every reason to hope that hereafter this Almshouse will not be a nest from which broods of paupers will yearly be fledged, nurtured to dependence, misery and crime; but, thanks to the wisdom of its overseers, they will grow up instead among civilizing, religious and refining influences, with no knowledge of degradation, beyond the earliest memories of their childhood.

The same thing is possible in connection with the Blockley Almshouse; and if this latest Germantown experiment prove a success, we see no reason why the Guardians of the Poor of Philadelphia should not perform a duty which would seem so incumbent on them, and remove from contaminating influences, the hundreds of poor waifs who come to them annually from the slums. They cannot be exempted from such influence at the Almshouse, but, through the exercise of paternal care, they may be converted in a good citizens. This is almost impossible under the present system; and thus the city, by its own improvidence, provides full crops of paupers, who are so both by inheritance and education.

Subscriptions for the Register are slowly coming in, and arrangements are hoped for by which each Ward Association will give proper attention to this attempt to disseminate information on the new and better ways of Charity. 20 per cent discount will be allowed to any persons sending in the names of not less than 20 subscribers with the money. This offers good employment to any suitable canvasser desiring temporary work.

CASES.

CASE 18. A. was found by the Visitor very much intoxicated and was adjudged unworthy. A benevolent citizen objected to the decision, as he had been helping her for years' and believed there must be some mistake. On a second visit by the Superintendent the person was found very much intoxicated on her bed, with a bottle about one-third full of whisky. She was in the habit of carrying a basket with fruit and cake for sale; presenting a good appearance and a well-told story of her poverty. This side of the picture while on the street, the other side of the picture was to be obtained only by a visit to her home.

CASE 19. An old woman deemed respectable asked for money. It appears that she was living rent free and that she was in the regular receipt of \$16 per month from eight persons; she complained that she was getting old and did not feel able to visit other friends, who had also been giving to her, and that she wished to add to her list of benefactors nearer home.

CASE 20. An able-bodied man sat in the house all winter long, living upon the earnings of his wife, who had five little children, and who sustained the household with the money she was able to obtain from one or two weekly washings. On every call of the Visitor the same story was rehearsed of "lack of work." As soon as the Roman Catholic Church, at Eighteenth and Stiles Streets was commenced, the Visitor interested herself to procure work for this man, who was a brick-layer. She was successful, but on her next visit was surprised to find the fellow in his usual place of ornament upon the hearth-stone. How was this, she asked, had he not obtained the work, "yes," he replied, "I could have had the job, but they'd only pay me seventy-five cents a day, and how's a man to support his family on that!"

CASE 21. A family applied, consisting of a widow, with one daughter about 17 years of age, and a little boy of seven or eight. They had been previously self-supporting, but were then in great straits, as the mother was in feeble health. Upon inquiry we found the daughter had learned the hair business, making up braids, curls, etc., but work was very scarce and was done by the piece, at a very low price. In the best of times she could only make three dollars a week. When she could earn this amount they thought themselves very comfortable indeed. The matter was taken into consideration, and it was suggested to the girl that she should learn the cleaning and shampooing branch of her business, as a great many ladies are in the habit of employing persons to do this service for them at their homes. She did so, and fixed the price per visit at twenty-five cents, a very reasonable sum, as all know who have employed a hair-dresser for this purpose. Patronage was secured for her by recommending her to friends, and some persons also gave her braids, puffs, etc., to make over at home. By the money thus earned she was enabled to tide the family over their immediate difficulty. She now has regular employment during the day, but is still glad to wait upon ladies at their homes, after working hours, that she may add to the slender income.

CASE 22. A widow with four children, the eldest under 12 years of age. When this person made known her pressing want to the Superintendent, he did not wound her self-respect with offers of aid, but said with wise delicacy, "I will see Mrs. F." What you desire is to have plenty of work to do." Thereupon she was recommended to the Visitor. The person in whose particular care she was placed, obtained for her washing and cleaning, by speaking of her want to the Visitors and to outside friends. Since that time she has required no aid from this Ward Office.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Saturday,	Jan. 24,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Jan. 26,	8 P.M.	Board of Directors,
"	Feb. 2,	8 P.M.	Assembly,
Saturday,	Feb. 7,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Feb. 9,	10 A.M.	Women's General Conference,
"	"	8 P.M.	Board of Directors,

OFFICES OF THE WARD ASSOCIATIONS.

WARD.	LOCATION.	HOURS.	SUPERINTENDENT.
1.			
2.	1102 S. 5th, S. W. cor. Wash. ave.	10 to 12 and 2 to 5.	Thomas O. Webb.
3.	718 Catharine street.	1 to 4 P.M. Sat. only.	Frederick Anne, Jr.
4.	619 Alaska street.	9 to 12 and 2 to 4.	Alpheus K. Long.
5.	338 Griscom st.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	Samuel Scattergood.
6.	416 Race street.	9 to 12 A. M.	Miss Cornelia Hancock.
7.	1420 Lombard street.	8 to 10 A. M.	Lewis G. Mytinger.
8.	243 South Fifteenth street.	8 to 10 and 4 to 5.	W. Wyman.
9.	1425 Market street.	11 to 1 and 5 to 7.	Dr. E. P. Jefferis.
10.	1500 Vine street.	11 to 1 and 4 to 6.	Samuel T. Altemus.
11.	817 North Fourth street.	9 to 11 and 2 to 4.	R. O. Jefferis.
12.	do.	do.	do.
13.	730 Green street.	11 to 2 and 5 to 7.	W. H. Parmenter.
14.	1228 Ridge avenue.	1 to 6½ P. M.	Charles Kelley.
15.	1902 Brown street.	9 to 11 and 3 to 5.	Dr. James W. Walk.
16.	1035 North Third street.	9 to 12 A. M.	Charles M. G. Felten.
17.			
18.	439 East Thompson street.	11 to 12, 4 to 5.	Dr. A. H. Hulshizer.
19.			Dr. P. C. Schiedt.
20.	1420 North Eighth, second floor.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	W. W. Miller.
21.			
22.	No. 4 Harvey street.	2 to 6 P. M.	Robert Coulter.
23.	Union Hall cor. Paul & Oxford sts.	2 to 4 Tu. and Sat.	Mrs. J. R. Savage.
24.	505 North Thirty-ninth Street,		F. V. Robinson.
25.			
26.			
27.	257 South Thirty-seventh street.	9 to 1 and 6 to 7.	Rev. F. O. Pearson.
28.	1947 North Thirteenth street.	12 to 2 and 6 to 7.	Dr. J. B. Kniffin.
29.	1910 Master street.	11 to 12 and 5 to 6.	Dr. E. R. Stone.
30.	2035 Christian street.	8 to 11 and 6 to 7.	W. D. Thomas.
31.	2307 Frankford avenue.	11 to 12 and 4 to 5.	Dr. Joshua Allen.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President, Hon. Wm. S. Stokley, Mayor (ex-officio.)
 Treasurer, Horace Howard Furness, 222 West Washington Square.
 General Secretary, Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D.
 Assistant General Secretary, Charles D. Kellogg.

Central Offices, 1429 Market Street.

Central Employment Bureau, 1427 Market Street.

Dr. E. P. Jefferis, Superintendent.

* * * The aim of this Society is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the Poor. Annual Memberships \$6; Life Memberships \$500. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Asst. Gen'l Secretary.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1880.

[No. 4.]

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY.

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

The Assistant General Secretary, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Memberships \$5.00; Life Memberships \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Central Office.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President of Board of Directors, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge.

Treas., Horace Howard Furness, 222 West Washington Sq.

General Secretary, Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D.

Assistant General Secretary, Charles D. Kellogg.

Central Offices, 1429 Market Street.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Saturday,	Feb. 21,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Feb. 23,	8 P.M.	Board of Directors,
"	Mch. 1,	8 P.M.	Assembly,
Saturday,	Mch. 6,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Mch. 8,	10 A.M.	Women's General Conference,
"	"	8 P.M.	Board of Directors

EDITORIAL.

THE CENTRAL BOARD.

A statement of some of the services which it has rendered and of others in which it is engaged, needs only to be temperately and carefully made to explain its worth.

1. There is not a Ward Association in existence to-day which the Central Board did not call into being.

2. The Central Board banded men and women together to work in new ways and upon new principles; to study the problem of social improvement and to improve the old methods by the light of the widest experience.

3. The Board marked out and provided the apparatus of a plan which directed the Ward Associations into a common and co-operative system.

4. It also encouraged hesitating and embarrassed wards, and consulted with the courageous and influential wards, that they might act as parts of a common organization, and that the burdens of each might in some measure be equalized.

5. This support of a common plan has, no doubt, kept the Ward Associations from relinquishing their work, whereas the rule of former ward charity societies has been their abandonment after a year or two of activity.

6. The Central Board has instigated and maintained regular conferences of visitors, directors and superintendents, at which difficulties were stated, successful methods made common stock, and information and courage imparted.

7. It has published much information as to charity work, and made many suggestions to facilitate the operations of local associations.

8. It has established a central registration bureau for all the wards, which offers a clearing-house to them as well as to the whole city, enabling them to trace roving impostors and repeaters, and to substantiate the references of their applicants moving from place to place.

9. It has negotiated and set on foot plans of co-operation with other societies, which have been carried out, with more or less success in different districts.

10. It has opened a Central Employment Bureau.

11. It has started a monthly periodical designed to narrate the best experiences and to publish the wisest hints concerning benevolent labor, whether derived from our own Associations or from abroad, and, also, to promote unity of endeavor among all charitable workers.

12. The Central Body is engaged in efforts to extend the organization of charitable work in the City, which Ward Associations, because they are local, cannot advantageously undertake. While some negotiations are still pending, it may be unwise to speak of them in print, but the recent action of the medical profession, in favor of bringing hospital out-service and dispensaries into co-operation with each other through the medium of our society, is one example.

13. In the better utilization of our municipal institutions, and in securing the improvement of city ordinances, and the passage of needed laws in behalf of the health of the poor and the restraint of vice, this society can only act efficiently through a central organization.

14. The Central Body has, also, before it the recommendation of new appliances of relief, such as day-nurseries, kindergartens, provident fuel, saving and medical clubs, etc., which need to be wisely distributed over the city.

15. The more the work of this Society passes from simple relief of immediate physical want, into the higher plane of educating depressed families to thrift and better domestic life, of uniting charitable societies and persons in a harmonious work, and of supplying the needed new agencies for improving the moral and social condition of the poor, the more serviceable the Central Body will become, and the fuller will be the recognition of its functions and their worth.

These words are written because they answer inquiries that have now and then been kindly made for just such statements. Thoughtful persons who comprehend that our society aims at something very different from almsgiving, may perceive that were it not for the Central Board, the Ward Associations would not probably be in existence; being in operation they would be separated in fact, and be in danger of separating in method and purpose, some lapsing into the old scheme of pure physical relief, and others abandoning a discouraging field, until, at last, the whole fabric would dissolve, and the best aims which animate us would go unattained and unsought.

TO OUR CRITICS.

Our Society has been severely assailed by some newspapers in this city and elsewhere this winter. To some of its members this was no surprise, as they predicted the nature and certainty of these attacks, almost from the very start of our movement. Many friends of Charity Organization are, however, pained by them, and in some quarters, confidence has been shaken in our enterprise. It may help just-minded persons to know some facts concerning these attacks. If they have not been publicly answered, it has been because the journals making them have generally refused, when asked, to publish any explanation offered them, and even to correct mis-statements.

It has also been learned that these newspapers in some instances have been instigated to their work by individuals who are unkindly disposed, because the Charity Organization Society has seemed to be against their interest. Certainly none of them have come to our officers to verify their information or to seek explanations before assailing us.

A curious fact in the case is that while complaint is made against the per-centage of money spent in actual relief, it is our relief-work which has raised against us the bitterest feeling. There are almsgiving societies in the city which were urged to join in this Charity Organization plan, before a single ward was invited to act, both that their interests might be protected, and that our Associations might be relieved, as much as possible, of alms-giving by transferring that duty to them. Whatever their reasons, these Societies threw away the opportunity offered them, and forced upon us a large share of our relief-work. The immediate effect upon them of the new movement was that they found it increasingly difficult to raise money, "*Hinc ille lachrymæ.*" Compelled to enter the same field with them, we became their unwilling rivals; and hence, we are the objects of criticism from some of their champions, a criticism to which we have never attempted to reply. Had our Society refrained from relief-work, devoting itself to organization, as has been done in Boston and Buffalo, and leaving that field clear to these old Societies, we should undoubtedly have escaped much newspaper and other censure. So what we have spent in relief is far more the ground of opposition to us than what we have spent in administration.

But it is not altogether to be regretted that our Society has been the object of so much public notice. It particularly desires to be understood and whatever breaks up the apathy of the community and invites inquiry, even if it be unjust assault, will, in the end, make our principles known. Our assailants have planted themselves upon a ground of criticism, which this Society has constantly, strenuously and openly repudiated. They have relied upon the wrong but popular feeling, that the chief end of charity is to produce a numerous clientage and to give away as many things as possible. There is little excuse for any misunderstanding as to our position. The objects of the Charity Organization Society are expressly declared to be, not alms-giving, but "to see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved," and this "seeing" is not primarily from our own treasuries, but is sought, "by obtaining the necessary help for all deserving cases of want from the *proper charitable societies*, or from *official or individual sources*; or, *failing in this*, by furnishing relief from its own funds."

The other objects of the Society are:—2. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving. 3. To make employment the basis of relief. 4. To secure the community from imposture. 5. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism and to ascertain their true causes." These were the objects for which public support was asked. How could it more plainly be declared that direct relief-work was not the purpose of this Society, but only an incident of it? This information has been published in a dozen ways and on every practical occasion, and these were the objects which made us our first and most friends.

If the community can only be made to understand our Society, it will sustain it. The quicker this point is reached, the better it is. They who would hinder our access to the public sympathy may, after all, prove the greatest helpers to it. At all events, there is too much intelligence, conscience and earnest humanity in Philadelphia to let the aims of Charity Organization fall to the ground, and we must be thankful to those who help us to get at them, by converging public attention upon our work.

The Philadelphia Organization of Charities which the New York *Tribune* attacks is in reality attempting to do for that city what has been done for Buffalo and for Springfield by an efficient organization of volunteer charity. The reason that its outlay for salaries is large compared

with its outlay in relief, is because it is merely the clearing-house and head-centre of a great multitude of charitable societies, covering the city and needing some central bureau to prevent overlapping of relief and to keep the unworthy from making a tour of all the sources of charity. It is a greatly needed and abundantly justified effort, not to give relief, but to make sure that relief is wisely directed and pauperism not encouraged by reckless giving. It has met much opposition from those who misunderstood it, but when it is considered that its purpose is to supplement, harmonize and intelligently direct the alms bestowed by public authority and by volunteer charity, and to prevent pauperism, the utility of its functions will be recognized.—*From Springfield Republican, Jan. 19.*

The thanks of this Society are due to the New York *World*, the Springfield *Republican*, the Boston *Transcript*, the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, the *Times*, the *Penn Monthly* and the *National Baptist* for the intelligent defence they have made of our Society, and for their clear advocacy of Charity Organization doctrines during this winter.

CO-OPERATION.
MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

About a year ago a Committee of this Society opened communications with the Medical Societies of this city with a view to asking them to unite in some plan for harmonizing the dispensary and out-hospital service, to repress the impositions practiced on medical charity, and to co-operate with our Ward Associations, so far as concerns investigation of cases, and to furnish aid on their recommendation. The matter was taken up very cordially by both the County Medical Society and the Homœopathic Medical Society, and after examination and full conference, the plan originally suggested by our committee was substantially approved. On Saturday evening, the 24th Jan. last, a large meeting of prominent members of the Medical County Society was held in the College of Physicians, and another of the Homœopathic Society in the Hahnemann Medical College, to hear the report of their Committees. At the former Dr. S. D. Gross presided and at the latter Dr. A. N. Thomas. At each meeting the same general plan was adopted, as follows:

FIRST. That all applications for relief shall be made in the first instance at the offices of the Medical Charities.

SECOND. That applicants with families in receipt of \$9 a week or more, unmarried person receiving \$6 or more, and persons living out at service, are able to employ a physician, and should be refused treatment; and that applicants should be so advised through the cards of the Medical charities, as well as by notices placed on the doors of the service rooms.

THIRD. That applicants who may be admitted to treatment shall be required to pay for their medicine, or to deposit ten cents at each visit in a box provided for the purpose unless exempted through procurement of a certificate of the ward superintendent of the Society for Organizing Charity, on which the words "unable to pay" shall be noted. This condition should also be placed on the cards and on the notices on the doors of the service rooms.

Also a standing committee was appointed by each Society to promote co-operation with our Ward Associations and to report annually.

In this action of the Medical Societies, the aims of Charity Organization receive the endorsement of professional men,—we had almost said of a profession,—who not only are intelligent, educated and highly influential, but by experience in the homes of the poor and in great charitable undertakings, highly competent to speak.

In the accomplishment of this plan the out-service of twelve general and three special medical hospitals and of eight general and two special dispensaries, or of twenty-six out-door relieving medical charities, will be brought into co-operation. The annual disbursements of these institutions can hardly be less than \$50,000. So this honorable profession and this large class of beneficent institutions come into line with the new charity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOUP HOUSES.

MR. EDITOR:—Will you allow me a word relative to the Soup House Charity, its dangers and the right mode of conducting it? I consider it, let me say, a most valuable charity. Indeed I know none better in itself, none more needed in a large city or capable of effecting more good at a small cost. But every good thing as we know is liable to abuse—the least to the greatest. And the Soup House is no exception to the rule. The dangers to it arise from several causes:—1st. It is felt to be a good charity, every one calls it so; and this tends to blind managers to its abuse. Then it is not money it dispenses, but only soup and bread, "and these can surely do no harm" to the consumer. Then again, it is not only on the poor these are bestowed, but on the poorest, those in rags—shivering often with the cold and rain—and showing in their pale, sad faces the need of nourishment. It is not strange that from causes like these, almost imperceptibly relief should come to be granted without a thought as to the character of the applicant or the consequences that may follow upon the giving. And it is just this oversight of "character" in the case and the effect upon it of the alms-giving that render the Soup House, in view particularly of the numbers and the class it has to deal with—a most dangerous charity; and has actually made it as I believe, for past years, the most demoralizing and corrupting of all our Charitable Agencies. It had much better, I think, not have existed at all, than have been conducted as it has been. I am satisfied that much of the frightful pauperism of the Fourth, Fifth and a part of the Seventh Wards (that burning disgrace of our city) is due to the work of the Soup House of which I myself am a manager;

our other Public Charities and our citizens, individually, by their gifts to beggars on the streets and at their gates being responsible for the rest. This is a humiliating confession to have to make, and a dreadful charge to bring against the best and kindest-hearted of the people of Philadelphia, but I don't see how they can with truth plead "not guilty" to it. My only comfort in the case of the Soup House I speak of is, that the managers, about ten years ago, seeing their fault, set about repairing it by cutting off the tramps and vagrants from the benefits of their Charity and confining it to those who, only after careful visitation, were found to be deserving of it. The result was, that from an average of 704 tickets yearly, for the 14 years prior to 1889, the issue since, up to last year, had fallen to 459. Gratifying, however, as this change was, it was not entirely satisfactory; it was but too plain that many unworthy ones were still being fed, a false sympathy yet clinging to some of the managers, not permitting them to be refused. Happily, the present year, through the influence of your Society's teachings, this sickly idea of Charity has given place to a robust and conscientious one, and the consequence is, a good prospect that the number of tickets for the season will hardly reach 200. The saving of money will, of course, be a large one; but this gain is as nothing compared with the consideration, that while not one deserving person is known or believed to have been turned away unrelieved, none have been encouraged in an evil course of life by careless giving. Many a valuable lecture or sermon, too, has been preached in the refusal of help to those whose vicious lives and surroundings have been named as the reasons for it. (Of course, in looking at this reduced number, allowance must be made for the mildness of the season and the increased demand for labor, but after this is done, a vast deal remains to be credited to the policy stated.)

This cardinal measure of "Investigation," then—rigid, thorough investigation—which your Society so wisely urges as the fundamental requirement in all Charitable Relief, I would press on my fellow Soup House Managers as peculiarly indispensable in their work, if they would make it a blessing and not a curse to the poor, and do at the same time their duty to the Community. Only in this way, too, can they deserve and permanently retain the confidence and support our citizens have so long and so generously accorded their Charity.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A MANAGER.

In illustration of the foregoing letter, the following item may be of interest:—

In New York City, in 1873, under the great commercial depression, a most unusual amount of distress existed. Despite the warnings of the experienced, a large number of Soup Kitchens and free lodgings were opened. The effect is thus described:—

"The superabundance of relief attracted into the city the floating masses of vagrancy, the beggars and paupers of the whole State; the streets swarmed with them; ladies were robbed, even on their door steps; drunkenness greatly increased; the lodging-houses overcrowded; the evil rapidly spread; laborers on the farms in the interior, although receiving good wages, forsook their work and left the farmers without hands; houseless girls, avoiding the homes where labor was required of them, lodged in the free lodging-houses, obtained free meals, wandered in the streets at night, and as a result, large numbers of them were enticed to ruin."

The case of a woman long drawing large supplies of soup from a down-town Soup House, was handed to one of our Associations for investigation. It proved that she made \$14 to \$15 clear profit a week by keeping boarders, and that the daily kettle of soup supplied her dinner table.

Another pretending to have a claim for a large portion of soup and the most liberal allowance of bread on account of a large family, was found to daily empty her soup in the gutter—she took that simply to secure the bread, which she could not get alone, and which she could readily have purchased if Unorganized Charity had not tempted her with it.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

A COMPARISON. By the last annual report, it appears that 19,607 grants of aid were given by this Society, at a cost of \$18,069.88. This makes the value of each grant 92 cents. There were 8,419 families amongst which these aids were distributed, thus allowing to each household \$2.15 worth of relief.

The Union Benevolent Association reports its cash cost of relief for the year 1878-9 to be \$10,220.34, and the number of families for the same time to be 5,630. This is \$1.85 for each household, (taking the same ratio of grants to a family as existed in our own work.)

The Home Missionary Society reports its cash cost of relief for the year 1878-9 to be \$6,928.42 and the number of cases for the same time to be 11,991. This is 58cts. for each grant, or, as by our ratio, \$1.35 per family.

If it be urged that these Societies gave away many things in kind which do not appear in the cash account, the same thing is true of the Ward Associations. Although relief is a part of our work which is to be deprecated, yet this statement shows our critics that, by the old standards, our grants were more generous than those of the oldest and most revered relief societies in the city.

Last year the city of Philadelphia appropriated \$8,000 for the salaries of its visitors to the poor and their office expenses. There were twelve districts each with an office. During the same time the Ward Associations maintained 24 offices and superintendents at a cost of \$11,827.77. If these had been maintained at the same expense as the city's out-door relief, they would have cost \$16,000, or \$4,172.23 more than they did. So the appropriations of the Ward Associations were much more economical than those of the city-councils.

The Buffalo Charity Organization Society asks for \$7,000 for this present year, all of which is for expenses. Buffalo is about one-sixth the size of Philadelphia. Had the expenses of the Philadelphia Society been last year, proportionally to the population as large as this, it would have spent \$42,000 in administration. The Buffalo expenditures are unquestionably wise, and its work warmly approved by the citizens without exception, and ours, being for the same ends, may be tolerated.

Thirtieth Ward. A gentleman applies to our office for a good cook, also a good housemaid, to go to a principal town in Wyoming. Wages from \$20 to \$25 per month, according to qualifications. Railroad expenses will be advanced, to be paid back in instalments. Washerwomen were recently offered \$2 a day and their board to go to the same destination, but could not be had even at that price.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The ASSEMBLY of the Society held its stated monthly meeting upon the 2nd inst., in the usual place, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the chair. The attendance nearly filled the room.

The Chair announced the Standing Committee on Arrangements as follows: Rev. Dr. R. E. Thompson, Dr. Charles E. Cadwalader, Mr. Albert B. Williams, Mrs. Susan I. Lesley and Mrs. Oswald Seidensticker. The composition of the other Committees was announced in part, and further time was asked in which to complete the list. The ASSEMBLY directed that the names be not published until the Committees were filled; meanwhile the Chair asked for further suggestions regarding them.

The subject of "Day Nurseries and Kindergartens" was then considered, and the discussion opened by a paper from Dr. Cadwalader upon the value of the Kindergartens. In St. Louis they have been adopted by the public school board as initiatory schools, while in Boston they are thus far refused official adoption, but are widely maintained by private liberality; and opinions differ greatly among authorities as to the advisability of public adoption, as their elastic discipline does not comport with the more formal discipline of the higher grades.

Mrs. Charles G. Ames, of Boston, urged that the success of Mrs. Shaw's schools in Boston wholly meets the objections against public adoption. The rigid discipline necessary in public schools is sufficient reason for separate provision for younger children at their most impressionable age. Inquiry shows that children transferred from Kindergartens to Primary Schools are fully two years ahead of others, although often less orderly. As children learn vice before the usual school age, so Kindergartens would save much cost of prisons and penitentiaries. The system is founded in the natural order of development, mental and physical; and the children being without unwise restraints, develop more healthfully in refinement and freedom. They are not suppressed but trained by natural standards. The Kindergartens are imperfect, as is everything of human arrangement; but they are helpful and needful for the poor who lack better, and often any training. This training is so much preparation for higher schools, and if, as is proved, one year equals two of primary schools, the economy is established. The discipline depends, as in other schools, upon the wisdom and tact of the teacher. All children should be taught to obey by educating moral laws within them.

Prof. Thompson said: "The great need is of light at the centre. The reason why our schools are so imperfect is the want of an inspiring and guiding mind. The secret of the success of the St. Louis schools is Wm. T. Harris, the Superintendent. Our schools in Philadelphia are behind those of Massachusetts, and of New Jersey, and of St. Louis."

"The Kindergarten is worthy of honor because it breaks down the unnatural wall between work and play."

"With the subject of Kindergartens is closely connected the subject of Day Nurseries for poor women, where they can bring their children for the day, while the mothers earn a living by labor."

Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, of the Twentieth Ward, said: "That mankind is the product of two factors, innate tendencies and external surroundings. If the first are uncontrolled we shall have generations of paupers and criminals; but by proper surroundings and training we can raise up men and women of vigor and character. This must be done during the three periods of childhood—the formative, to six years of age; the reasoning, from six to twelve years of age; and the industrial, from twelve to eighteen years of age."

"The foundation of all goodness or greatness must be laid during the first period. Lord Brougham said: 'A child can and does learn more before the age of six years than it does or can learn after that age, however long his life may be.' Juvenal says: 'The man, the character, is made at seven; what he is then he will always be in spite of a thousand teachers after that period.' Says Madame DeStael: 'Give to me the first six years of a child's life and I care not who has the rest.' Plato says: 'Manners are implanted in early infancy, and virtue gathers strength from habit.' And the Old Testament lays frequent stress upon early training."

"Hence the need of practical training to the eye, the ear, the hand, the intellect, the will; of regular habits of self control and order. Cultivate powers of observation, strengthen curiosity, arouse a desire to see and do; remembering also that physical development at this age is of utmost importance. These accomplished, the child should work orderly and rightly through life. Even the playthings have a great bearing on the future of the child; his restless activity should be directed with regard to future results, for it is the foundation of the indefatigable enterprise of the man. Want of discipline inclines him to lawlessness, and indolence and ease lead him to vice and crime."

Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland, of the Twenty-seventh Ward, closed the discussion: "As to the place of authority, I think it should have little place in the schools, if by authority we mean taking things for granted on the word of the teacher. The pupil should believe as little as possible on authority. He should believe that two and two make four, because he sees, with his own eyes that it cannot be otherwise."

"We should, to a great extent, carry the modes of the Kindergarten through all our schools. The system of election in studies, now largely used in our best Universities, is an adaptation of the Kindergarten in a higher sphere; it is a consultation of the special tastes and character of the pupil."

"As to the low qualifications of the teachers, perhaps considering their scanty pay, and the efforts constantly made to reduce it, and considering

the way in which they are appointed, we have reason to be thankful that we have even such teachers as we have."

The meeting was exceedingly suggestive and helpful to all engaged in work for the uplifting of the needy classes in the city; the large attendance of intelligent and interested persons was most encouraging.

JANUARY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

Among the matters considered by the Directors of the Society at their meetings in January, may be enumerated the following:—

The changes in the "Suggested Constitution for Ward Associations," required in order to conform to the new By-laws of the Society, made at the Annual Meeting in November last, were approved and ordered to be reported to the several Ward Associations.

The Committee on Ward Associations was directed to consider what measures are necessary to perfect the organization of the city as a whole, in order to more effectually prevent vagrancy and pauperism, and also how the general aims of the Society can be rendered more effective.

The Committee on Charter submitted a form of Charter which was approved, and the Committee were instructed to take the necessary steps in court for the incorporation of the Society under that form.

The Bedford Street Mission was invited to send a Delegate to the Assembly, every Society admitted to co-operation being entitled to one representative in that body.

A recommendation to the Ward Associations, urging the distribution of Investigation Tickets to every house where application for relief is likely to be made, was adopted. The reasons for this recommendation, are that the Society by its organic law pledged to the community its best efforts to repress begging, that these tickets are the only means to this end whereby private citizens can co-operate with the Associations, that by offering this facility for investigation generally, the Society shifts responsibility from itself to the citizens, and that such action by relieving households of importunity and perplexity in dealing with beggars commends itself to their good-will and favor.

A form of letter was adopted, for use by the Ward Associations in offering to every charitable agency working within their limits, the investigations of their Superintendent in order to secure more thorough co-operation.

The following persons were elected as members of the Society under the new By-laws, viz:—

HONORARY.

Hon. Daniel M. Fox.
Hon. William A. Porter.
Hon. George L. Harrison.
Dillwyn Parrish.
Joseph G. Rosengarten.
James S. Whitney.
Miss Mary McHenry.
Miss Harriet S. Benson.
Miss Sophia Jones.

CORRESPONDING.

Robt. Treat Paine, Jr., Boston.
Rev. S. H. Gurteen, Buffalo.
Hon. Wm. P. Letchworth, Portage, N. Y.
Prof. Geo. I. Chase, Providence.
Dr. Diller Luther, Reading.
Rev. Chas. L. Brace, New York.
Mrs. Clara T. Leonard, Springfield, Mass.
Mrs. Josephine S. Lowell, New York.
Miss Louisa L. Schuyler do.

VISITORS' GENERAL CONFERENCE.

At the January General Conference of the Women's Corps of Visitors, systematized reports were received from the different wards, under a new plan designed to show whether there has been any improvement in the condition of the poor, and, if so, by what measures the change has been accomplished.

Fifteen Wards reported that they had 588 Visitors at work with 1389 new applicants for aid. Four wards report having sewing schools for the employment of women, in three of which there are 196 beneficiaries. Four adults were placed in Hospitals or permanent Asylums, and homes were found for two children. Much attention has been paid to finding employment by the Visitors, and in the Seventh Ward, many obtained work in private families through the agency of the Visitors; the Thirteenth Ward finds work for the support of two families sufficient to make them independent; elsewhere women are employed by sewing classes, and a number of mechanics and others have been placed where they could earn an independent living.

The Fifteenth Ward gives work to every able-bodied man applying and places have been obtained for a number of women. Relief is there refused to those who decline the labor offered them. The Twenty-second and Twenty-third Wards are working in co-operation with the Guardians of the Poor in those rural districts which have a poor-system separate from the city Board of Guardians. The relations thus established are friendly and advantageous.

The Eighth Ward reports two interesting instances of permanent relief; a mechanical engineer whose instruments had been in pawn two years, had them redeemed and was restored to his pursuit; an aged woman with a blind daughter, had her sewing machine secured to her after it had been taken from her on account of \$12.00 due upon its purchase price.

The Visitors report in many instances a perceptible improvement among the families under their care, and a diminution of begging habits. This general summary is very imperfect, partly because it covers only about half the wards, and partly because the new system of reports is not quite understood. But the evidence of it is that the Visitors are working carefully to improve the homes and habits of the poor.

SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETINGS.

These bi-weekly gatherings are maintained with regularity, and with profit to those who attend. This mode of bringing together all the experience, successes and hindrances of these officers proves a very efficient and instructive method of improving them in their various duties, and those who fail to attend lose much personal equipment which would render their services more intelligent and valuable.

At one of the January meetings, Mr. Benj. Crew was present and held a lengthy conference with the Superintendents as to practical methods of working with the Society to Protect Children from Cruelty. He gave full information as to the laws relating to begging and neglected children, as to what constituted ground of action and what steps should be taken by the Superintendents to secure the interference of his Society. Among much important information he said:

"Our object is more to get legal custody of the child for its protection, than to punish the offenders. The question of criminal neglect is very broad; that caused by intemperance of parents is good cause for action. Being without food and proper clothing

without the parents having exhausted every means for obtaining relief, is such neglect; as is also being compelled to beg on the streets, or the carrying of heavy burdens."

We regret that our limited space prevents our quoting his remarks in full, but we hope to give them at another time.

GOOD WORK.—One Ward Association last year on February 1st, had relieved 230 families, of which 110 alleged no work. The Association spent for relief in January, 1879 on these cases about \$400. By finding employment, promoting thrift and stimulating to better ways sedulously during the summer, but 31 of these families are now in any need, and among these 31 there are but 2 unemployed able-bodied men, the rest being aged or widowed, and the amount spent in relief in January, 1880, on the same families, does not exceed \$85, a saving in one month of \$315, besides the 200 families lifted out of beggary into self-support.

The best work is the most economical in the end.

The Eighth Ward Association Visitors have just closed a course of instruction in cooking for their women beneficiaries. The class was under the care of Miss Charlotte Pendleton, and was quite regularly attended by a large class of women and girls, whose improvement in the culinary art was marked. Prizes were offered to the girls who made the best bread, and three little competitors came with their appetizing white loaves of such equal merit that the ladies could not decide which was the best. A plan by which a group of ten or more women could buy provisions and groceries at wholesale was presented and such a co-operative band formed.

A like undertaking is on foot in the Ninth Ward. The Visitors have hired a room and the use of her cooking utensils of one of their beneficiaries for \$1.00 a week, and there instruction is given in cooking, sewing and other housekeeping arts.

No greater service can be rendered to the depressed than teaching them how to make domestic life wholesome and attractive. The means thereto are so simple and easy to be had, that the Visitors in other Wards might readily adopt like measures.

HINTS.

A PRACTICAL LABOR TEST. If any family apply for aid because able-bodied members lack employment, and whose quarters are untidy, agree with the idle for temporary work at 50 or not more than 75 cts. a day, pending investigation, payable in the relief asked for; and then employ them in renovating their own homes, inside and out, under superintendent's oversight. After soap and brushes have done their work, the furniture may have attention. This will prevent actual suffering, and serve the double purpose of stimulating to thrift and self-respect. The willingness to labor thus established, the Superintendent would be justified in recommending the party to the Central Employment Bureau for permanent employment, which is now abundant for intelligent and willing workers, male and female.

CASES.

One of our most valued Visitors in a South-eastern Ward sends an interesting account from which we condense the following:

"My experience as a Visitor has been a profitable one; and has satisfied me that continual giving only encourages the poor to depend habitually on such assistance; and it is unwise except in extreme cases of sickness or inability. Of 60 families under my care as applicants for aid last year, but 15 were worthy of any assistance; and those with whom I expected to avail the least, on account of their extreme degradation, became in the end the most hopeful. On the first visit to many of them, I was compelled to stand outside the door, the extreme filth preventing me from entering.

CASE 23. In one room I found 21 persons living, with not a table to eat from, or chair to sit on; and at night the floor was strewn with straw upon which all slept like animals. When I called nearly all were at home and sitting around the walls on the floor, with a pall of beer in the centre and tin cups passing around. Noticing two boys, say 13 and 15, without other clothing than bed coverings tied around their waists, I enquired the cause and was told "Father had pawned them for the drink." These people had been accustomed to receive help without investigation or personal care, and were thus confirmed in their evil habits.

I refused alms, judging from the liberal supply of beer that they would not starve; but declining to enter until their room was cleansed, after a friendly call through the doorway, I promised to come again. My next visit showed they were acting on my advice. A susceptibility to good influences under which they went to work in various ways, has been stimulated among them, and they are now all independent of relief.

CASE 24 The acquaintance of another family of 8 was made under the same unpromising introduction. The father spent all his earnings in drink; as he found that benevolent persons encouraged him to do so by supporting his family for him on charity. My second visit revealed clean quarters and comparatively tidy persons. During my call, the mother took something from the stove resembling a large mass of putty; which proved to be intended for bread—a half baked mass of sodden flour and salt. Asking how she raised it, she replied in astonishment, "I don't know how, I never did." My offer to teach her was received with a radiant face, and in two lessons she made excellent bread. I found this was the kind of help the poor need, and this the real work of Visitors. Thus by gaining their confidence, and showing sympathy by securing a permanent situation for the husband, this family, which for 9 years had lived by begging, were started on the upward course, and have paid 7 months' back rent, laid in their whole winter's supply of coal, and three barrels of flour and other requisites, and are now thoroughly reformed and self-sustaining; looking backward with disgust on their past lives, and forward with courage to the future.

I am more than paid for my past year's work, by such results; and none of the families under my care have thus far asked for any aid whatever this winter. The poor need our experience and personal service as indicated above, more than alms; and such noble work as the Society aims to accomplish should be encouraged by the generous assistance of all who desire the permanent welfare of the poor."

Central Employment Bureau, 1427 Market Street.

Dr. E. P. Jefferis, Superintendent.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 15, 1880.

[No. 5

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Saturday,	Mch. 20,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Mch. 22,	8 P.M.	Board of Directors,
Saturday,	Apl. 3,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	Apl. 5,	8 P.M.	Assembly,
Monday,	Apl. 12,	10 A.M.	Women's General Conference
"	"	8 P.M.	Board of Directors.

EDITORIAL.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The subscriptions for the MONTHLY REGISTER are still coming in, but we have not yet reached the number necessary to make the undertaking self-supporting. We are receiving on all sides assurances of the practical help afforded by our paper, for which we are very thankful. Still, we need more subscribers. Will you not please speak a good word for us as you have opportunity, and try to get our paper into every family interested in benevolent work of any kind, and into each house in Philadelphia where application for relief is likely to be made? One says: "O don't ask me to read anything more; I am loaded down with reading matter already." Very true; that is the case with every wide-awake resident of a city in our day; but it is equally true that the *judicious reader and the active worker will find something in every issue that will pay the price ten times over*; and it is a humane thing to circulate this kind of literature. It will do good wherever it goes. Cannot each of our present subscribers afford to take four (4) additional copies (\$1), and order them sent to those in whom they desire to incite charitable thought? THE REGISTER will become more and more attractive the more our field is cultivated.

THE GENERAL SECRETARYSHIP.

As is mentioned elsewhere in this number of our paper, an important change has taken place in the arrangements of the Central Office. Rev. D. Otis Kellogg, who has been from the first the General Secretary of the Society, retires from that position, and Mr. Charles D. Kellogg, heretofore the assistant secretary, has been chosen to fill his place.

Rev. Dr. Kellogg has been so closely identified with the work of the Society, that it is possible that this change may occasion some alarm by creating an impression that the Society is about to lose his valuable services. This is not the case. As a member of the central Board of Directors, in which his experience gives him great weight, he will continue to place at the Society's service the talents which have been so widely useful in the work of its organization, oversight and maintenance. Since the extension of the Society through all the Wards has been nearly completed, the work of the Secretaryship has changed in its character, so that the principal duties, which are still quite onerous, have devolved of late upon Mr. Charles D. Kellogg. The careful and faithful management of the Central Office by this gentleman, his labors to keep it in close relation to the Offices of the Ward Associations, and to promote the efficiency of the latter, have commanded the respect and confidence of the

directors, and inclined them to welcome Rev. Dr. Kellogg's suggestion that his assistant should be chosen to fill this responsible position, and that he himself should be relieved from its duties.

We feel that we are uttering the unanimous sentiment of the thousands who are laboring in the cause of Charity Organization, when we say that we each and all are under a burden of obligation to the Reverend gentleman who thus retires from the General Secretaryship; and that we welcome his brother to the responsibilities of the position, with great thankfulness that the place will continue to be so well filled.

USE THE SOCIETY'S "MANUAL."

A very earnest woman, from another city, who was present at one of our recent public meetings, remarked, holding up a copy of our MANUAL AND DIRECTORY OF THE CHARITIES OF PHILADELPHIA, "In my work among the poor in past years how I would have thanked God for such a book as this! If your Society had raised for itself no other monument, I think it would be worth all it has cost your community. As I turn over these pages I find answers to almost every knotty question that used to perplex us. If you have a sick or disabled person, an old man or woman or a child on your hands, here you may learn just where to send the case; and here are wise counsels to visitors, information about legal questions, hygienic suggestions, hints on domestic economy, and a vast deal of just the kind of help you need every day among the families you are trying to benefit. I wonder, for my part, how all this condensed and accurate information about the long list of charities in your city could have been prepared in so short a time. It looks to me like the labor of years, and your Board have done a lasting service to all our cities, as well as to Philadelphia and its charities, by publishing the book." This quotation is prompted by the inquiries that frequently come to us in regard to matters very thoroughly treated in our Manual, where they seem to have escaped the eyes of our respected correspondents. The Hon. Wm. P. Letchworth, President of the New York State Board of Charities, also says: "The work is invaluable to me, and I question whether your Society is aware of the great obligation you have laid upon the workers in Charity by the publication of the volume, which it is evident has been prepared with much pains-taking labor."

The present edition is still furnished at (less than cost) 50 cents a copy. By mail, 55 cents.

THE REGISTER AS A WARD CIRCULAR.

WARD ASSOCIATIONS desiring to send out special appeals or information within their own wards might do well to order extra editions of the REGISTER with such special matter inserted in a prominent and attractive manner; and thus insure a better reception than is usually accorded to circulars.

At the present price of paper, extra editions of 1,000 and upwards, of any of the four-page numbers, can be supplied at the small cost of \$6.50 per thousand, in addition to the expense of the desired changes, provided they are ordered by the 15th of any month. This would be a good method of calling a public meeting, and at the same time, of spreading valuable information regarding our work.

THE demise of our respected fellow citizen, ex-Secretary A. E. Borie, calls to mind an incident connected with the work of our Society. Mr. Borie's reputation for tender-heartedness subjected him to numberless applications for the relief of real and feigned distress. Before he had familiarized himself with the process of our Society, he was one day appealed to by an honest-looking man who needed only \$20 to pay his rent

and make him happy. Mr. Borie had taken out his pocket book, but re-considered his haste, and promising the man an answer by 2 o'clock that day, referred the case to a Ward Office, and learned that the fellow was well-known as an ingenious *impostor*. He thereupon expressed his full realization of the need, and his hearty approval of the aims and methods, of the Society, in the systematic registration which offered such protection to the citizens.

THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

In dealing with dissolute families with young children, it is found that it is easy to get drunken and cruel parents sent to the House of Correction, but hard to keep them there. If a man is a good workman they retain him, but if worthless he is usually discharged very shortly for good behavior or some equally wise reason. A friend tells us that he had it from very high authority that the day before a late election a prisoner came from the House of Correction on condition of his returning the day after. He officiated as a *Judge of Election* on Tuesday and was back in his cell as a prisoner on Wednesday.

THE DIFFERENCE.

UNORGANIZED CHARITY.

Aims at *temporary* relief.
Helps those in poverty so as to keep them there.
Offers a premium on lying and idleness.
Invites the poor to sacrifice manhood and self-respect.
Is satisfied to simply keep a drowning-man's head above water.
Opposes investigation as costly, and urges the poor to deem it insulting.

Makes Scripture of no effect by its traditions.

Enervates, and encourages dependence.

Prolongs and deepens depression.

When it pretends to visit or investigate, has an average of 4,000 dependent families to 1 visitor.

Uses no systematic personal influence, and so widens the breach between rich and poor.

ORGANIZED CHARITY.

Aims at *permanent* relief.
Endeavors to lift the poor out of poverty.

Makes it each one's interest to tell the truth.

Brings out manhood and self-reliance.

Lifts the drowning man into the life-boat.

By investigation has ground for intelligent action, for strong endorsement of the worthy, and for exposure of the unworthy.

Acts on Scripture principles: "If any man will not work, neither let him eat."

Rouses all the latent energies, and urges to independence.

Strives to end the depressed state.

Supplies 1 visitor to every 5 or 10 dependent families.

Has 1300 men and women in Philadelphia pledged to personal influence, and to help to close up the breach.

CORRECTION COURTEOUS.—In making the point, in our February number, that the Central Board had called into being all the Ward Associations, the view was, of course, towards these bodies as organic parts of the corporate Society, each member of a Ward Association being *ipso facto* a member of the General Society. In this sense, the accession to our union of that noble precursor and exemplar of ours in similar local work, the Germantown Relief Society, was at the call of the Central Representative Board. Prior to this definite action the General Society and the Germantown Relief Society were somewhat in the relation of lovers in a courtship.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHAS. D. KELLOGG, Esq.

Dear Sir:—In answer to your favor of 19th, asking the number of children of school age in Philadelphia and the probable proportion not attending school who would be benefited by a compulsory education law, or by such private influences as might induce them to enter charitable kindergartens, I regret to say there has been no census taken of children of school age since twelve years ago, at which time there were 21,000 not attending any school.

Compulsory laws are not strictly in accordance with the methods of our people, and reasonably imply that all other means for securing the object have been fully used. This would be a most erroneous inference in regard to public education in Philadelphia. Of recent years citizens generally have taken little or no active interest in the efficiency of their Public Schools, and have done little to extend their accommodations to meet the wants of those anxious to be instructed. At present, all who desire instruction cannot be accommodated, for want of school rooms and means to pay teachers. In many American cities, their Public Schools are a part of their home lives.

I am clearly of the opinion that before compulsory education laws are enacted, kindergartens should be established for children from four to six years of age. Such schools would do the greatest possible good. Laws should be passed making it an offence to employ at labor children under a specified age. It should also be made the duty by law, of some municipal department, perhaps the police, to report periodically, at short intervals, all children who are not attending school, and it should be one of the offices of school directors to visit the parents of such children in endeavors to secure their attendance. It is unnecessary to say that school directors should be of a class who are deeply concerned about such matters, and whose personal standing would recommend their schools.

I am gratified that the subject has claimed the attention of your committee, and I am sure they will find it a most ample and important field for effective work.

I am, with respect, very truly yours,

Edward T. Steel.

(Pres. Board of Education.)

(If the name of the writer of the following were given, it would be recognized as that of a Friend, second to no one in Philadelphia for benevolence, ripe experience in matters of Charity, and the weight that is accorded to his judgments.)

[To the Register.]

In No Case Should Money be Given to Applicants for Aid Without a Full Investigation.

So numerous are the devices resorted to, that when a stranger asks for pecuniary aid it should always be assumed that the applicant is an impostor till full investigation be made.

The writer of this article has been recently called upon by three persons asking pecuniary assistance: the first to bury a child; the second to aid a young colored man in his theological studies; and the third to prevent a heartless landlord from turning a poor young man and his mother, a widow with a sick child, homeless and penniless, into the street. On a careful personal investigation all these parties were found to be frauds, and utterly unworthy of belief.

The last named professed to be a German teacher of music, who represented that he was out of employment and unable to help his widowed mother and her family. It is believed that he obtained a published report of a benevolent institution, and called on some of the managers, representing that several of them were familiar with the circumstances of the family and had contributed to its relief.

So plausible were his statements and general appearance, and so profuse his tears, that a benevolent gentleman who is not often deceived by false representations, was induced to contribute a few dollars to relieve the case.

It will generally be found that even in a deserving case nothing will suffer by a few hours delay, and if the person applied to for aid cannot conveniently give it attention, a note or postal to the superintendent of the Ward Association in which the applicant professes to reside, would, I have no doubt, be attended to, and the party informed of the result.

PHILADELPHIA, 3 mo. 1st, 1880.

A CITIZEN.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

THE BUFFALO CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

From October, 1877, to October, 1878, the entire expense for Superintendent, agents, assistants, stationery, books, etc., was \$6,700; while the city alone, during the same year, was saved \$48,000, and the benevolent quite as much, by the repressing of imposition and fraud.

At the beginning of the present year, some of the leading business men of Buffalo, of their own accord, held a private meeting; when it was unanimously agreed that, in view of the benefit which the Society had been to the city at large, to the poor, to the benevolent and to tax-payers, they would raise among themselves the \$7,000 required for the ensuing year.

It is now pretty generally conceded that it is better to pay for a Society which is not only checking fraud, but manifestly raising the moral and social tone of the poor, than to have one's pocket picked by lies, or to have one's money taken in the shape of increased taxes for the building and maintenance of prisons.—*Society's Report.*

We trust it is hardly necessary to direct the attention of our citizens to the proceedings of the second annual meeting of the Charity Organization Society, as reported in our local columns this morning. The society has now passed beyond the stage of experiment, and is able to show results and to announce facts and principles in which every citizen has deep interest, both moral and material. It is, indeed, a great as well as a noble work which has been accomplished for Buffalo, in the establishment of the society's system for the improvement of the condition of the poor, and the repression of pauperism and fraud. Four years ago the growth of pauperism in Buffalo had become alarming to every thoughtful observer. More than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars was squandered in indiscriminate out-door relief in a single winter; private and corporate charity was over-taxed, and the effects were everywhere visible in the rapid increase of a demoralized element of our population. Two years' work of the society and its auxiliaries has wrought a change little short of marvelous. The cost of official alms-giving has been cut down to less than one-third; mendicancy and imposture have been practically suppressed; the needs of the worthy poor are better known and relieved than ever before, and the plague of pauperism, if not stamped out, is at least stayed. All this has been done, not by the creation of new agencies of benevolence, but by the introduction of organization and intelligence into the operation of agencies already existing. Who will say that the money which has been spent to secure this organization of charitable effort—this intelligence in giving—has not been well spent? It is complained by some that means are thus expended which might be bestowed in actual alms; but it is not too much to say that for every dollar it has cost in this city to make charity wise and discriminating, ten have been saved to the tax-payers, while experience has a thousand times proved that unwise giving is a curse to its recipients rather than a benefit.—*Buffalo Courier*, Jan'y. 17, 1880

INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The Indianapolis Charity Organization Society was fully completed and its officers elected upon the 27th ult., and from the high character of its promoters and friends, we are justified in anticipating the best results in the administration of charity in that city.

for the future. It will give no relief whatever, but devote itself in a purely business like and systematic manner to investigating applicants, and harmonizing and aiding existing charities.

In response to a circular from the Council, Rt. Rev. Bishop Chatard, of the Roman Catholic diocese of Vincennes and formerly President of the English College at Rome, sends the following emphatic endorsement:

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 12, 1879.

Messrs. John Caven, Simon Yandes, William Wallace, M. O'Connor, H. H. Walker, and Oscar C. McCulloch, Committee Charity Organization Society:

GENTLEMEN—You have been good enough to ask of me an expression of opinion regarding the recently proposed plan of "Charity Organization" in this city, and I desire to meet you in the same spirit.

This movement, entirely independent of church control, has had success elsewhere. It has been presented to me not only with the stamp of success, but with hearty recommendation of persons well-known to me, and who had spoken of Rev. Mr. Gurteen and his work in terms most flattering to him.

It seems to me, therefore, advisable to give this Charity Organization a trial amongst us, for very obvious reasons. Nothing tends so to reconcile the poor man with his hard life, and make him feel kindly disposed toward those more fortunate in this world's gifts than himself, as the knowledge that he is cared for and thought of with consideration by the better classes. And this is as it should be.

Moreover, an organization such as this contemplated would undoubtedly redound to the welfare of the community.

It would protect the poor from the discredit brought on them by worthless people who represent themselves as poor when they are but impostors—a baneful discredit that hangs over them, drying up the wells of charity, and fruitful in gaunt destitution, despair, misery and destruction.

If conducted on the principle that there is to be no sectarian preponderance of whatever creed, it will be a success, for I am sure there is enough good feeling among us all, irrespective of our religious opinions, to lead us to co-operate in a work of this nature, purely secular, but at the same time charitable, aiding the really poor without regard to their creed. I know from experience how charitable many are who, in the midst of the "warring of creeds," hold aloof from any religious organization. These and others can unite their resources in the present work, and their united efforts will be productive of greater and more wide-spread good.

Wishing you, gentlemen, the happiness of being able to do what you aim at, I am, very respectfully, your faithful servant,

FRANCIS SILAS CHATARD, Bishop of Vincennes.

TO ALL THE CHARITABLE SOCIETIES OF PHILADELPHIA.

We will be grateful to the officers of each and every charity of the city, if they will send, or cause to be sent, to us upon the receipt of this notice, a copy of their last annual report, for our own files, and hereafter a copy of each new report as it shall be issued. The frequency of reference to us for information regarding the aims and specific conditions of the various charities by many who recognize our Central Office as a convenient Bureau of Intelligence in this department, makes it very desirable that we should at all times be possessed of the very latest information from each, and thereby we may often be able to benefit both them and those who seek the information. If any charity desires to have its work specially known to all our Ward Associations, we shall be happy to carry out their wishes, in which case we can distribute 30 to 35 copies of each report. We shall also be glad to receive as full a set as possible of back reports of all benevolent societies as a matter of historical record; and our library of reports will at all times be open to those who desire to consult them.

Newport R. I. has had a Charity Organization Society in operation for one year. Although it gave away nothing, so strong a hold has it taken upon public sentiment, that on the 6th of January last, the city council took the following action—

"It was voted that the Overseer of the Poor be directed to attend the meetings of the Board of Reference of the Charity Organization Society as the representative of the city, and to base his action in granting relief on the result of their investigations. And also to grant no relief to applicants for charity unless satisfactory evidence of the worthiness of the applicant is obtained either through the agents of the Board or from some equally reliable source."

PROTECTION OF WORKING WOMEN.

In keeping with their title, the "New Century Club," (composed of many of our most earnest and intelligent women) at 1112 Girard Street, have opened an agency, in charge of a committee, "For the Legal Protection of Working Women." The ladies have not sent us the particulars of their plan, but we understand that application may be made in person or by letter, at room 1, as above; office hours, Wed. Eve'g., 7 to 10, and Sat., 10 A. M. to 6 P. M. The chairman is Mrs. Hallowell; ass't chairman, Mrs. Coggins; Mrs. G. A. Smith, and Mrs. McKay compose the committee in charge.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

The following are some of the matters considered by the Board of Directors of the Society during the past month:

A Standing Committee on Co-operation, consisting of Messrs. Cadwalader, Baily, Huston, Evans and Cross, was created, in the interest of the promotion of more intimate co-operation among all existing charities.

An appropriation of \$100 was made to the 4th Ward Association.

The Ward Association Committee reported various visits, and other efforts, to increase the efficiency of the Associations in the 1st, 4th, 16th, 24th and 26th Wards. The Committee contemplate visits to each of the newly organized wards, and to as many of the older Associations as possible.

The Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D., having intimated a desire to retire from the General Secretaryship of the Society, Mr. Charles D. Kellogg was elected to fill that office.

The Committee on Charter was instructed to ascertain whether there is power, under existing laws, resident in Magistrates to abate the evil of vagrancy. Steps were also taken looking towards a registration of all street beggars and vagrants.

POCKET WARD CHART.

A neat card, of the size of the usual letter envelope, has been issued by the Society, having on one side a map of the city divided into wards, with the location of each ward office marked in it; and on the other side the objects of the Society, the names, offices and hours of all the Ward Superintendents, and a few general directions to the charitable public. It is a convenient thing to have in the house and in the pocket for ready reference, and may be had gratis by applying at the Central Office.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF—CONFERENCE WITH THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.

The Conferring Committees of the Directors of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity and the Board of Guardians of the Poor met on the 26th ult., at the office of the latter, on Seventh street below Arch. Rev. Dr. Kellogg, Joshua L. Baily, Philip C. Garrett and Dr. H. Lenox Hodge were present on the part of the Society, and Messrs. Chambers, Durfor, Gill and Orr on the part of the Board.

The meeting was entirely of an informal character, and was brought about by the following letter, which was presented to the Board from Dr. William V. Keating.

"At a meeting, held January 13, 1880, of the Directors of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, there was a committee appointed to confer with the Board of Guardians of the Poor regarding the practicability of their appointing such of their Superintendents as the Society would nominate to serve as Visitors, without compensation, but to be clothed with the legal powers heretofore entrusted to Visitors of the Poor."

Dr. Kellogg said that the Society having noticed that the Board were without Visitors of the Poor, and as its Superintendents were doing the work formerly performed by the Visitors, it was thought that the former could do better if they acted under the authority of the Board. The Society, therefore, asked that whatever functions belonged to the position be devolved upon the Superintendents of the Society, the latter to nominate the best men in their employ, subject to the approval of the Board, and with authority, particularly upon these two points:

1. The recommendation of inmates to the Almshouse under the sanction of the Guardians of the Poor.
2. To have the same charge of the medical relief as the old Visitor.

Mr. Chambers replied in behalf of the Guardians that they had made it a rule to scale the Almshouse, and admit no inmates in excess of the number that can be supported under the appropriation of Councils, making exception in surgical cases, children and pregnant women. The Visitors for the past two years have not been vested with power to send persons to the Almshouse without the sanction of the Board. As for medical relief, any reputable citizen could call upon a Physician of the Poor to prescribe for the poor, and he is compelled to go in all cases. He becomes, however, the Visitor, and continues or discontinues the visits as he may deem necessary.

Mr. Chambers, after further consultation, together with the other members of the Committee of the Guardians, thought it best that the requests of the Society be sent in writing to the full Board, and did not think that they would be denied.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

Monday, March 1st, 1880.

The Assembly held its regular monthly meeting at the Central Lecture Hall, 15th and Market streets, this evening, Dr. H. Lenox-Hodge in the chair.

Secretary, Mr. A. B. Williams read the minutes of the February meeting, and also a communication from the Board of Directors stating that in their judgment it was inexpedient to take any further action on the matter referred to them by the December meeting, viz: the decision of Councils to withhold the usual appropriation to the Guardians of the Poor for out-door relief.

The functions of the several standing committees, as indicated by their titles, the chair, on request, explained, were for each member to obtain all the facts he possibly could in the several Wards, and elsewhere, and compare notes with the ladies and gentlemen of the committee, so as to be ready to present these facts to the Assembly upon occasion.

In regard to the vacancies left in appointing the committees and occurring otherwise, it was important to fill them with the most desirable persons, not with mere names. Suggestions could be sent to the Office, where they would reach the chair, so that suitable assignments could be made from those who were eligible.

Mrs. Susanna D. Wharton, of the 7th Ward, then related the results of her inquiries in London in 1879. We quote from her valuable paper:—

ORGANIZED CHARITY IN LONDON.

"It was with a very natural and home-like feeling that I found myself entering one of the offices of the London Charity Organization Society, 151 Marylebone Road.

"Having no letter of introduction, I simply stated to the superintendent my interest in the Organization, as the parent of one which had been at work in Philadelphia during the past year, and my desire to obtain any information which would be of use here. With true English courtesy, he invited me into a private room, placing before me what a physician might call his 'case book,' containing the history of a number of applicants and the weekly decision of a committee of men and women.

"For example, a laundress had saved money enough to buy a mangle costing \$25. As it was being lifted from the wagon at her door, it was dropped and broken, so that it had to be returned for repair which cost \$20. These are the relative amounts—not accurate as to shillings and pence. The woman, considering the price exorbitant, appealed to the

Charity Organization Society, who tried in vain to get a reduction. They then took it to the court, but lost the case finally because one of the woman's relatives had helped to lift the mangle from the wagon.

"It was a hard experience, as she was dependent upon the mangle for a livelihood. It was therefore decided by the C. O. Society, that they would pay all the legal expenses, summoning witnesses and etc., and loan half the cost of repair, to be paid by weekly instalments of a shilling; the church to which she belonged co-operating with them and agreeing to pay the other half. The C. O. Society, however, make it a rule never to loan money unless there is a fair prospect of payment, considering an unpaid loan more demoralizing than a gift.

"It takes but little time to tell this story, but it ran through weeks, and represents a vast amount of patient care and thought at every step, on the part of some of the most intelligent and conscientious men and women of London.

"A French girl who had run away from her home in France, was cared for and protected by the Society, and a respectable home found for her, where she could be earning her living, until her friends could be heard from. A letter was written to her father calling out a very grateful reply. Meanwhile, the girl had become restive, did not like to work, and wanted the Society to pay her passage back; but it was thought best that she should stay until she had earned the money herself, and also learned not to run away again. The care for her well-being and safety on the part of the gentleman who had undertaken her case, in view of the temptations to a girl young and pretty and a stranger in a great city, was very marked.

"A tailor of the better class, who had been unfortunate in business, wanted to move with his family to New Zealand. Great care was taken by the visitor reporting to ascertain what were his chances of employment on arriving, how his goods would be disposed of to the greatest advantage to raise money for the journey and for subsistence until he and his family could get work; and if in the opinion of practical men and women, New Zealand offered him a fair opportunity for starting life again under more favorable auspices, then the C. O. Society would supplement his slender means and send him; probably no trifling drain upon the treasury.

"By kind invitation, I was present at this Committee, which meets weekly, and sat a deeply interested listener while these and other cases were worked out with thoughtful care, each fresh decision being registered in a book. How different is such careful help from mere almsgiving. 'Blessed is he, who considereth the poor.'

"The view taken of the circumstances of each applicant by the gentlemen, combined with that of the ladies, seemed to result in a sounder judgment than either could have attained alone.

"We in this Society seek co-operation from without; this shows how it can be made very efficient within our limits. This opinion has been confirmed by the valuable assistance rendered me by two gentlemen of our own Society in a recent difficult case.

"Octavia Hill has been long absent from this committee on account of broken health, her physician having forbidden her to speak on the subject so near her heart. Filled with a profound sense of the needs of the unfortunate, she seems to have worked in utter forgetfulness of physical limitations, only waking up to find herself stranded, and unable even to give counsel and advice to her co-laborers. A sojourn in Italy has so far reinstated her health, however, that she shows herself on rare occasions in — court, where her presence and influence are especially needed.

"One of the volunteer landladies, Mrs. A., who shares with Octavia Hill the care of — court, was present at the committee, and kindly invited me to accompany her to the court, where she receives at stated times such 'blanket money' as her tenants are able to bring in as provision for the winter. It was with great interest that I accompanied her to 'this little realm,' bought by the Countess of Duncraig, a wealthy and benevolent lady, and described by Octavia Hill in her article entitled 'Homes of the London Poor,' as once so wild and unruly.

"There, in a neat room, Mrs. A. sat at a table receiving the shillings or sixpences of the tenants, noting each sum in the contributor's book. This accomplished, she invited me to go with her to call on some of the tenants where she had business. They received me with real politeness. A man in a little room was cooking his food over a small coal fire. He had parted with his only child, a young daughter, so that she might have the advantage of school. A light came into his thin, patient face as Mrs. A. spoke encouragingly to him, telling him how wise it was in him to make the sacrifice.

"A carpenter, one of the tenants, was mending the stairs. With us a broken step would be replaced by a new one; but not so in London, where wood is valuable. They were pieced by small strips just where they had given way, and every step carefully tested and examined. This court was, as those know who have read Octavia Hill's account of it, one of the worst places in London. Now, from its dingy houses one sees window boxes with carefully tended flowers. These ladies are watching the next court with a view to buying it also, but have not yet succeeded.

"There are two model blocks also in the court for a better class of tenants, who can afford to pay more; and great pride they take in their neat and comfortable rooms. They are built so that there is a free circulation of air in all the rooms; and there are permanent wash tubs in the building. Several times it was my privilege to sit with this lady and her associates in the neat audience room, where they receive the weekly rent, saving-fund money, etc., and where they are accessible to all the inhabitants of the court. One young lady, an heiress, just entering life, is bearing a part in the labor. Another, seeing the girls gossiping in groups, has established a sewing school; and a neatly dressed little girl, of perhaps 12 years, while handing in her mother's rent, told with great enthusiasm of a delightful day which the class had spent in the South Kensington Museum under the care of this teacher. The ladies divide the sum-

mer among them, one always being in town, and punctually at her post every week; and this regularity goes far towards ensuring promptness of payment on the part of the tenants. There is but a small percentage of bad debts; and the property pays as an investment. The collection of the weekly rents following closely on the payment of the weekly wages must also help greatly toward economy. Mrs. A. writes:

"As regards this particular kind of work among the poorer classes, I think that though it may be easily over-rated and sometimes has been so, yet it has many distinct advantages. It is a great gain to us, and to them, to be brought into frequent relation in business matters easily and simply. We see a good deal of their real lives without asking questions, and they see something, we may hope, of a standard of manners, conduct and temper, higher than their own. In the long run and in a very slow, quiet way this will tell to their benefit. It does now to ours. They do not yet understand why we do this work; but for such comprehension, even were it needful, we may be content to wait."

[Then follows interesting details concerning the "Working Men and Women's College" of London, and the "National Health Society," and the happy influences which they initiate and promote among the poor.]

"There is also a society for bringing beauty into hospitals and the homes of the poor, by gifts of flowers, pictures, and other articles of taste; and with all the wretchedness and poverty, and all that has to be undone in London, there is a spirit abroad which seeks, by these associations, as well as by the natural and simple method of friendly intercourse in their homes, to stand side by side with the unfortunate, the discouraged, and even the degraded, showing them the respect and courtesy which is due to every human being and which none appreciate so keenly as they."

"These associations are not founded by the Charity Organization Society, although they are probably its direct results, and certainly are permeated with the same Divine Spirit. The Organization which I was told now extends over nearly the whole of the great metropolis, confines itself to investigation, bringing about co-operation, granting assistance in cases not met by existing charities, and repressing mendicancy. To use Mr. Ames' apt illustration: 'Charity Organization is like a railroad passing through a new country, along whose banks settlements are sure to spring up.'"

Mr. Philip C. Garrett said Charity Organization had spread over almost the whole of Great Britain, as he hoped it would do over Pennsylvania and this whole country. Here we have a far better opportunity of making it a success than they have there. We have not the old endowed institutions whose objects are very often out of date, obsolete, but whose funds the managers feel bound to spend; hence they are wasted.

Mr. Rudolph Blankenburg was called upon to give some account of the Berlin Society. He said he had just left the steamer yesterday so that he could not go into the story this evening. The movement to organize charity, he could tell them, was spreading all over Europe. He had found it in the cities he had visited, and had seen circulars from several towns of 100,000 and 150,000 inhabitants as well as smaller ones where the idea was being adopted.

On motion of Prof. Thompson, Mr. Blankenburg was requested to prepare a paper on Charity Organization in Europe for the next meeting.

The subject of "Employment of the Poor" was opened with a paper compiled by Dr. Jefferis; in substance as follows:

"An underlying principle of this Society would make it the rule that all able-bodied applicants for aid should be set to work, first, as a test of worthiness, and second, to impress the moral precept that people should live on their own earnings if possible. And not even employment should be given as alms, which guise and quality it may take on as truly as food or fuel or money. In fair times, the ability to earn one's bread is the ability to find the opportunity to do so, in most cases. Observation proves that among the chronic poor want of work signifies, as a rule, shiftless indifference about finding work and a happy faculty of losing it when found, by failure in following it faithfully and steadily. There is a class whose pretense of desiring employment is merely a plea to awaken sympathy. Work offering, they refuse it and return to their habits of idleness and beggary.

"It is not good charity to find employment for one set of men by displacing others who are earning a livelihood, or to put applicants for aid into competition with the more resolute and independent. This would incur the objection which lies against forcing honest industry into competition with prison or State pauper labor. The bounty may be private or corporate: the vice is in its pitting muscle and skill (often inferior skill) and extraneous help, against muscle and skill and manhood. The man must make shoes for fourteen cents per pair, because the convict, and the pauper, and your brother on the soup-house file can do it. This way tend all schemes which throw a part of the proper burden of life on a third party, and release the toiler from the conditions under which thrifty, self-reliant people must maintain themselves. Charitable societies which furnish work generally fail of their purpose, though they do not fail to do a good deal of harm. They graduate very few of their beneficiaries into useful occupations.

"Mainly, if not solely, to redistribute labor is the function of an Employment Agency—to break up the brute aggregation of artisans and laborers in places overstocked, by enlightening the ignorance of these men, by helping them to make their capacities known, by setting them on ways of discounting their future services to reach points where they are needed. It does not do merely to pay a man's passage to a jumping-off-place. Agencies in the large industrial centres and a system of correspondence and investigation such as our Society contemplates, and in a measure secures, will gradually work towards a solution of this problem of the employment of the poor.

"Much of the advertising under the head of "Help Wanted" is deplorable in its effects, if not vicious in its design. Poor men are tempted to

travel long distances to find the place advertised filled ten times over; hence they take to the road, look around for something to steal, or lie down on some Charity. I refer especially to the notices "500 men wanted," etc. The motive would seem to be to break the local market and get labor at dog's meat prices.

"The chief difficulty in the way of any plan for organizing labor is in the incompetency and unreliability of the subjects of this beneficence themselves. There is no market for fools, drones or shirks. Labor is the employer's power, and he cannot sustain himself unless he can depend on the skill and faithfulness of his subordinates. Against this law it is useless for an employment agency to contend.

"In seeking to make employment the basis of relief, which point is the pivotal one of our Society, we may undertake two things, first, to use work as a test of need and of character; second, to find it or bestow it as relief to the really competent and trustworthy. The incompetent we cannot recommend, and plain labor is easy to find; the unworthy will have sneaked out of the office. Practically, and in the present state of opinion, the offer of work can hardly be dissociated from the administration of alms, and is tinged with more or less of that quality. If people have the means of living supplied by charity, such is the infirmity of depressed and perverted human nature, that it will not turn from idleness to arduous toil. Human sympathy forbids the refusal to even the improvident and debased of the necessities of life. It is questioned whether this feeling is wise. Should 'sweet charity' intervene to keep such households from suffering? I say supply them with only the simplest and coarsest provisions. This applies to able bodied dependents who are, in law, and generally in fact, vicious persons, amenable to the restraints provided for sturdy vagrants and beggars. To these, what charity furnishes, while sufficient for health, should be coarser than that which industry could earn. Real destitution is willing to accept the simplest relief, whether in the form of uncooked meal or of obscure and ill-paid toil. Moreover, where there is a right disposition and one which gives promise of susceptibility to moral and honorable social influences, the man or woman would prefer to give some equivalent for what is received, or pay for it in toil, even though that be fatiguing and poorly requited.

"Those who cheerfully accept this test commend themselves at once to a large confidence and disclose whether they are fit to be taken into regular employment, and whether their wants are real or simulated. In many cases so rigorous a test may seem hard, especially for those who are not used to labor; but it is really the best and shortest way out of their trouble. Besides learning that best of all arts, the art of hard work, being without influence or helpful acquaintance, they must prove themselves to those who would employ them if they were known. If improvidence or evil habits have reduced them, the way back to respect and independence through hardship is wholesome. Cushioned carriages are for those who have bravely won. It is not altogether harsh to require the erring thus to show a genuine repentance and an honorable ambition.

"Such a test might with a little ingenuity be supplied by our Ward Associations, and has been, I am aware, in part. Coal and coke to those who were willing to carry it home to have it; the able-bodied to carry supplies to the aged and sick; enrollment of those willing to do any odd job for neighboring citizens, with refusal of aid if they declined such work, are hints on this point. A better grade of groceries, might be given on evidence that the applicant had earnestly sought or found work. Still better tests will no doubt suggest themselves to experience and careful thought."

Mrs. D. B. Birney spoke of the Sewing School conducted by 7th Ward ladies, and of the real help and pleasure it gave the women to be employed even for the 50 cents they could earn there. They had sometimes 80 or 90 women. Some made two pairs of large pantaloons, some two shirts, for which they received 50 cents. From this beginning one woman has pushed ahead till she has got a sewing machine. One of their learners is 80 years old. Any one would say it was better to give sewing than a few beans or a little corn-meal or something people don't want and won't eat—far better to give money for sewing than to give orders for groceries. They have made clothing for several of the Homes, the Societies furnishing the materials and the Sewing Class the work.

Mrs. Lesley wished to commend the work of Mrs. Birney's committee, especially for the soul and sympathy that she and the ladies put into it.

Mrs. Blankenburg described the school for household work in the 9th Ward, as it was a little different from anything else of its kind. It was open on Saturday morning with 16 or 17 children, as many as the room would accommodate; renting the room, the stove, etc., from one of the 9th Ward beneficiaries. Some of the children sew while the others cook. They are taught how to prepare the simplest dishes, such as hominy, mush and stews. The ladies teach sewing to keep all busy who are not preparing food. The room is open about 4 hours. She had noticed marked improvement in the children. They were more interested and more attentive. It was difficult now to get them home.

Mrs. Ames continued the description of the school. This little Charity was one of the most charming things she had ever heard of. These ladies rent the room of a poor woman and pay her \$1. That helps her. They surround the children with just the kind of things they are accustomed to. When she went in four little girls were taking a lesson. They were taught the price of things, how to buy, how to cook, what it cost, how to make a stew, a rice pudding. The children stood up and told these things while those who were sewing listened and repeated. Their hands were clean, their nails clean. They were taught the texture of cloth, and a little grammar now and then; how to set table nicely, about table manners, not to gobble or gabble, but to be polite to each other, not to stick their fingers into the glasses; then to wash the dishes, fold up the cloth, sweep up the room, and all done as mothers would

to children, not as patrons, fine ladies who had come down to pat them on the head; and not in a handsome room, with strange fixtures, but such as they saw every day among their friends.

Dr. Walk, of the 15th Ward, referring to the sewing given out to poor women, said the difficulty was it was taken from other poor women. That done for the Northern Home, for instance, was taken from regular working women. In Harrisburg the work of repairing the streets has been taken out of the hands of those who had not asked charity. Dr. Walk also took exception to the policy of providing for those who would not work, even by giving them the coarsest food, etc. He did not think we ought to raise an artificial barrier between starvation and such people. As in the Greek fable of the grasshopper and the bee, "They who pipe during summer may dance through the winter." He favored the starvation nature provides, and no exception to nature's plan should be allowed, excluding, of course, the old and the infirm and the children. Put on the work test, and if they won't work, drive them to the confines of civilization empty-handed and hungry, but grant no premium on idleness. I don't think we are stalwart enough. The complaint was some time ago made against the House of Correction that the inmates were kept on too coarse fare, etc., when Mr. Cattell replied (he may not have said it, but it was a good thing): "It is not intended to make these men comfortable." And so I say; if we do, it offers a premium on vice. We should agitate until good laws are made and kept. You remember the story of the utterly shiftless good-for-nothing in the country. The boys got him into a wagon, and were hauling him off to bury him, because nothing else could be done with him. A farmer coming along, said: "What, bury the man alive; stop, I'll give him two bushels of corn." The man raised himself on his elbow and piped out: "Is it shelled?" "No," said the farmer, "it is not shelled." "Then drive on boys," said the pauper. A young man from Londonderry bearing a strong recommendation from a Presbyterian minister there to a clergyman here, applied to us for employment. He was sent to the Central Bureau. Work was provided—painting. He tried it, but gave it up because it soiled his hands. This didn't prevent him from going around begging from private citizens and telling them that Charity Organization was a humbug. Such a man should be hunted down as an enemy of society.

Mrs. Dr. Small, chairman of the 10th Ward Ladies' Employment Committee, said they had had a list of 20 women, but work falling off they had been troubled to know what to do for them. Some of the Institutions had been applied to, and since then they had plenty of work. They did not find that they were taking the work from poor women by what was got from the Societies. At the Jewish Home, for example, the work given to our women had been previously done by ladies, out of benevolence. Most of such work was done by inmates and not by outside workers, and therefore clear gain and given to them as a favor. Mrs. Birney confirmed this and said the inmates were sometimes kept up till midnight to prepare necessary clothing.

Miss C. K. Meredith thought that in the cases of boys' institutions, Dr. Walk's position was well taken, and in regard to the others if it was an evil it was at present a necessary evil and we should look forward to a time when it could be avoided.

Mrs. Lucas said much of this work had been heretofore done by Church Society ladies, and it was really an improvement on previous methods to give it to our applicants.

Dr. Walk agreed that where it was only taking work done before by ladies it was all right; he only objected where the work was actually taken from regular seamstresses.

Dr. H. T. Child was glad the discussion had come up, because it showed that the greatest good sense and care should be used in this matter. In Baltimore they started a laundry but found that they had put poor women out of work, so the scheme was abandoned. He had called on Mr. George W. Childs about that advertisement "500 men wanted" which brought such a horde here—hundreds—to be offered 20 cents a thousand for cleaning bricks on the line of the new elevated R. R. (and a man who was used to the work could do 2000 in a day—40 cents!) Mr. Childs gave directions to have the advertisements more closely scrutinized in future.

Mrs. Ames said that Mr. E. E. Hale, thinking of getting a contract for a Boston Sewing Society from a large clothing house, found that the contracts went out to the farmers' daughters in northern New England. Mr. Hale however got a large contract. In a few years they had all those farmers' daughters and poor women from outside leaving comfortable homes, and living in holes and attics in Boston. Women are in the position of wards of Society. Men can take care of themselves, but women are preyed on by every misery and care. There are no beings so utterly down as the wives of the poorer classes. There are none of the horrid revelations of slavery to compare with their condition. You must treat them as wards, train their brains and fingers, and when they are skilled there will be a market for their work. Now they have no skill, no power, no hope. The best work we can do is with the children.

Dr. Jeffers stated in answer to a question, that some of the Associations had been furnishing work; the 7th Ward street-sweeping; 8th and 9th, coke-carrying and any odd jobs. Other Wards have under contemplation the sawing of wood. For old people there was no work perhaps except on carpet-rags.

Judge Peirce said this was one of the most charming debates he had ever listened to, partly because the ladies had participated in it. From one of them we had a suggestion which we could not too highly estimate: train the children, not only to work but to skilled work. He recalled a woman's meeting some years ago to make an outcry for want of work and low wages. He called on a dealer in boys' clothing to learn why it was. The dealer said the quality of the work would not do. Judge Peirce nearly lost his reputation once by saying to a large meeting that there was "not one woman in ten who knew how to sew on a button so it would

stay." Do what you can for the old women, but teach the children to sew, teach them industry and confidence in their own skill, have inwrought into their finger ends the qualities that will make them independent. Education of the head doesn't keep men out of prisons. There are 250 men now at the Eastern Penitentiary graduates of high and other schools. It is not the men trained to trades that are in prison.

Mr. Joshua L. Baily said that it presented us with a paradox to go through the city and see the busy times, and then hear this discussion. He was glad there was a Society to examine this paradox, and such an opportunity to test the employment question. Two years ago there was paralysis in trade; honest workers could not get employment; the hammers were silent by the anvil, the shuttle sleeping in the loom. This is now all changed. Why do not all have employment? He did not believe any honest and good men were out of employment. Women were, perhaps, but no reason for men being out of work, unless it was to be found in the 5,000 rum shops in the city. Ninety per cent. of all the crime, according to the last Grand Jury, was caused by rum, and he believed ninety per cent. of all poverty and lack of employment could be charged to the same account. This is the place to test the plan of Charity Organization. Philadelphia is the largest manufacturing city on the globe. Here where we now sit, in a few weeks the building will be leveled, and trains from the whole continent run in and out. A committee has just returned from Congress probably successful in securing the necessary appropriation for harbor improvements to bring to us our full share of the commerce of the world. Mr. Lorin Blodgett shows us that here last year over \$600,000,000 of manufactures were produced during a year of unparalleled stagnation. More shoes, carpets, and iron manufactures are produced here than in any city in the world, and here is the place, amid this unequalled activity, to try our experiment and make it a success—if not here, then nowhere. The poor, the defective, and the crippled, will always be here, and as long as the thousands of rum shops remain, we shall have the old questions ever coming up, but we shall get nearer to their solution if we go on bravely and improve our great advantages.

Mr. N. F. Evans of the 29th Ward, said that in the Employment Bureau of the Young Men's Christian Association, for the last eight years Mr. Sloan's experience had proved that those who couldn't get employment couldn't do anything well. It has become a sort of formula in our Ward to ask an applicant "Are you willing to do 10 hours hard work?" If yes, "Then put in 10 hours hunting work." He alluded also to the plan started by the 29th Ward ladies to get women employment at ten cents an hour. This is often found to be the beginning of thrift with them.

Prof. Thompson said it was with industry as Webster said of the law: "There is always room at the top." The solution of this employment question will be an educational solution. We have not increased occupations as they have in England, adding especially artistic employments. We have 20,000 more women than men in Philadelphia. Sewing is overdone as farming is in Ireland; but if we extend industrial education there will be less trouble. The difficulty in applying the apostolic rule "He who will not work, neither let him eat" is in the suffering it would bring upon poor women and children. And then, take the world over, there is not work enough for everybody. But there is much work done by those who do not need it to live by. The Dorcas Societies are responsible for some of the mischief; Peter called Dorcas back to life, but I believe he would have let a Dorcas Society sleep on. They had better drop their work and let the poor have it, and stop their indiscriminate giving.

Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland thought that the rule about "Room at the top" applies to sewing. Very poor and very common sewing is overcrowded but good sewing not. He was well acquainted with a lady who found it her hardest work to get good sewing done at reasonable prices. She pays 50 cents to one to sew and 50 cents to another to rip it out, and then does it herself. If they would only heed the injunction of the Apostle, who says "so, do;" but they don't. The wants of the poor are moral, not physical. They need energy, skill, thrift; and this Society is doing a great deal in helping them to develop these qualities.

Mrs. Ames said that cooking was almost an undiscovered art and we could not train too many women to sew well; and Mrs. Lesley added that with the great improvements that had been spoken of and the new influx of people there will be new sewing.

Dr. Hodges: This all brings into prominence our cardinal principle, "Employment the basis of relief." It is to be worked out carefully, thoughtfully, wisely, by each, in our own Ward, and with a clear sense of the danger attending hasty action. If we fail there, and not till then, come to the Central Employment Bureau.

CASES.

CASE 23. An industrious, temperate longshoreman, with wife and six children of 10 years and under, and another weekly expected, have suffered greatly before letting their wants be known, even to pawning all their shoes, warm clothing and furniture. No work offering in his line, he has striven hard for employment, but understands no other work sufficiently to be very useful. He has walked by starlight to Girard Point several mornings to be on hand for work on expected arrivals there, and without success. Four children have been taken down simultaneously with the measles, and the whole case is distressing and deserving. The Ward Association have assisted them as liberally as means will permit, and thus far kept them from farther suffering; but there seems to be no permanent relief until business on the wharves improves. Parties willing to aid such a case by giving employment, or by personal visitation with proper gifts of food, clothing or money, or by sending the gifts to them, may learn particulars through Dr. A. C. Deakney, Treasurer, 3d Ward, No. 782 South 2d street, or through the Central Office of the Society for Organizing Charity, 1429 Market Street.

CASE 27. One of our Superintendents says: "We have seventeen children attending

school under our supervision. Three women working in the 'House of Industry,' who are paid by this office, the 'House of Industry' providing them with dinner and nursery care for their young children. One of these women very well illustrates the kind of aid we try to extend to our applicants. She kept a small stand on one of the thoroughfares. We persuaded her to leave that and enter the 'House of Industry,' taking her youngest child with her. She then had her daughter, 14 years of age, stay at the stand. Instead of this exposed life the mother was induced by a neighbor (also an applicant of ours) to get the daughter a situation in a box factory, where after giving three weeks work without wages, she can earn \$3 a week. A son, 12 years of age, was becoming a vagrant from want of parental restraint. He was clothed by us and put into school, and if regular in attendance there, is allowed to take his meals with his mother at the 'House of Industry.' His mother says if he does not attend school she will give him up to us to place him in a country home. To get this family into wholesome and hopeful conditions has required ten times the labor it would to give them orders for coal and groceries the entire winter."

CASE 28. *Mendicancy becomes a disease.* A party applied at the Ward Office in behalf of a woman 65 years of age—very destitute; no shoes, nothing to eat, etc. We aided her at once and afterwards ascertained she was an impostor, having money in bank. A gentleman called to urge her necessities upon our care, and would not believe our report until after the old woman died and was buried with much display. He then came to acknowledge we were correct; and was anxious to know how we obtained this information.

CASE 29. "To be and not to seem." A case recommended to us and aided. On investigation it was dismissed as unworthy, when a gentleman called to say that he knew the woman as a hard working, worthy woman. He would not credit our information until we made it too plain that the neighbors were continually annoyed by the carousals in the woman's house, her drunkenness, etc. This woman had washed for his family and been helped by them for five years without exposing her true character.

CASE 30. *All that is lamblike is not lamb.* A woman asked aid for herself and several children abandoned by their father, leaving them for her to care for, also an aged father, infirm and ill. Could not give any reference, having recently come to the city searching after her husband. The man had worked for years at his trade with a firm in New Jersey, from whom we received answer that he could and ought to be made to support his wife. Investigating further, found the wife drank, the wife's father also, and that it was a sorry case altogether. The children, perhaps can be rescued, for which efforts are being made.

CASE 31. A widow dying with cancer and helpless for past twelve months, having three children, 16, 10 and 3 years old, was found utterly destitute and uncared for. Having no discoverable resources or friends, they were maintained for two weeks by private assistance without drawing on Ward funds, until the mother, evidently near her end, was placed in hospital, the youngest child settled in a Children's Home, the next placed with a farmer near the city, and occupation secured for the eldest, a girl, in sewing suspenders, which brought her two dollars a week, and a good home found for her in a private family where she could board for \$1 by assisting in household duties for a short time daily.

CASE 32 shows how much we could aid Church Societies if they would but co-operate with us and use our registration.

A woman applying was found by the Association, after careful investigation, to require no help, her husband having good wages; but she begged, chiefly to procure means to indulge her fondness for the theatre. She joined a neighboring church and attended meetings regularly enough to establish a good character, and then applied for money to pay her rent, or she would be driven into the street. A member of the Church Committee who had recently attacked this Society for large expenses and small charities, and been enlightened as to our true functions, bethought her to test the case before acting upon the sympathy the woman had enlisted. Finding on the Association Books the woman's record for a year past, and that the proceeds of begging went to the theatre till, and the testimony being verified by the neighbors, and also the man's employer, the Church was glad to accept the information and acknowledge that our Associations can do this investigating work better than any church or its officers, and decided to adopt full harmony and intercourse in future.

CASE 33. A gentleman living outside the — ward, called the attention of the ladies of that ward to what seemed a case of sore destitution. They visited the house, found that the woman had been confined but a few days previously, was apparently destitute of coal and food. The husband it was said had just obtained work at \$5 a week, but would obtain no money for some time. The neighbors confirmed the story—made it more pitiful if anything. Half a ton of coal and some other relief were sent. Further inquiry of the husband's employers showed that he had had continuous work at \$9 a week for years past, and had only forfeited a week's pay through absence from his duty. If investigation had been confined to inquiry at the house and of the neighbors, these facts would never have been known.

CASE 34. Application was made for a family whose head was entitled to a pension, but meantime wore in great distress. The man was so deaf as to be unfitted for many kinds of work. Tried peddling without much success. While the Association had them under care the wife died, and benevolent people were found who joined with our Superintendent in providing for the funeral, the Guardians of the Poor contributing a part. Not resting with that, the Association pushed the man's claim for pension, and got him a pass to Washington, where being identified by the proper persons, with the kind intervention of our Congressman, his claim was allowed, and on February 29th he received his back pay, amounting to \$350.

CENTRAL OFFICE, No. 1429 Market Street,
CHAS. D. KELLOGG, GEN'L SEC'Y.

* * * The aim of this Society is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the Poor. Annual Memberships \$5; Life Memberships \$500. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Gen'l Secretary.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 15, 1880.

[No. 6

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY,

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Memberships \$5.00; Life Memberships \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Central Office, No. 1429 Market Street.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday,	Apl. 26,	8 P.M.	Board of Directors,
Monday,	May 3,	8 P.M.	Assembly,
Saturday,	May 8,	8 P.M.	Superintendents' Meeting,
Monday,	May 10,	10 A.M.	Women's General Conference.
"	"	8 P.M.	Board of Directors.

EDITORIAL.

DECISION OF RELIEF.

It is incumbent upon the Charity Organization Society to emphasize, as rapidly as possible, the distinctive features of its plan. Last year relief of want by grants was the almost unbroken course of Ward Directors, as shown by the returns from the Associations. We were accumulating statistics, lengthening lists of applicants, and spending money in supplies, as if the old and false standards of Charity were the correct criteria. To continue in this career is to become competitors of more venerable organizations, and to disregard the real justification for our movement. Charity Organization did not spring out of a conviction that there was not enough provision made in Philadelphia for the physical necessities of the poor. Its intent was quite other than to add a few thousand dollars to the millions annually spent in aid of the destitute or suffering. Its pre-eminent aim is to place the impoverished and fallen in a situation where there should be *no need* of pecuniary aid,—is to reduce the number of dependent ones by fostering independence. In such an endeavor, the criterion of success is not the length of the list of beneficiaries, but the way in which that list is successfully shortened.

With this in view the By-Laws adopted by each Ward Association, pro-

vided that there should be a committee on Decision of Relief. The purpose of this committee is but in small part to determine whether a family is worthy or not, or what the Association can afford to give. If this were all the Committee undertook, it would only cover the ground of the Superintendent's duty; its work, except in a few doubtful cases, would be superfluous. That Committee must act largely on the Superintendent's report, and as his knowledge of any specific case is more minute and his experience in detecting want more exact, it would do little more than endorse his recommendations and hamper with red-tape his efficiency. More probably this would be the result, where a competent man was in the service of the ward; the Committee, discovering its dependence on him, and the superiority of his knowledge of applicants, would consider its function useless and so cease to act.

Now it is chiefly after the Superintendent's work is done that the most desirable function of the Committee on Decision begins. When his investigation has resulted in placing a family on the Relief List, then comes the difficult question how to get it off again, not by arbitrary exclusion, but by graduating the family from the school of dependence. In worthy cases our system makes this quite difficult, for those who satisfactorily endure a severe investigation establish a kind of claim to be believed and helped continuously. The tendency to remain a beneficiary soon becomes fixed after aid has been easily received. Moreover, the man who personally administers aid does not like to form a new judgment, and to begin a repressive course towards the meritorious poor. Yet if they are allowed to stay on the Relief List they soon become confirmed dependents. Just here the judgment of the Committee may be made invaluable. It is not likely to be swayed by personal feeling towards a particular case not personally known to it, but acts on the facts reported to it. In perplexing cases a conference of several minds, Visitors, and citizens of experience as contemplated by the by-laws, generally results in considerate wisdom. The members of the Committee acquire an aptitude in suggesting suitable changes in the method of relief, and they remove from the Superintendent the embarrassment of repressing claims which have once seemingly been approved. The arduous part of our work is in inducing the poor to stop asking assistance, and to make use of their own resources. Here there is the least light to guide us. Here we want inventive, judicious and cautious minds.

Having now lists of beneficiaries, would it not be well for the Committees on Decision of Relief to begin carefully to review them, and consider what measures can be taken to shorten them? This may involve curtailing supplies in one case, attaching conditions to them in another, discovering new resources in another, and finding a permanent home or asylum in another. Every step taken which transfers an alms-asker to a life of respectable self-maintenance, or takes a destitute person from precarious charity to permanent support, is a noble justification of this Society. This is the part of our work in the success of which all humane and conscientious souls will deeply rejoice.

INVESTIGATION.

We give an instance of the difficulty of convincing men of the imperative need of close investigation, in order to show our own workers that our methods are useless unless enforced in practice.

A Director of one of our Ward Associations entered a recent meeting of his Board, and stated a case of great destitution within gunshot of the office, where a family were cold and hungry, and in the house lay the corpse of a son which they were without means to bury. He had *unformed* himself regarding the case on his way to the meeting, and could *vouch* for it. Of course every Director responded to his appeal, and sufficient for

the burial was at once contributed, without using the Ward funds. Shortly after the alert Superintendent heard an intimation that the family was far from needing charity. A careful inquiry elicited that the father owned the house he lived in, paying taxes on \$2,000, and that he had \$300 in one savings bank, and \$100 in another, and also rented out a portion of the house at \$11 a month. He had also made arrangements to visit Germany this summer. With all his available means he was perfectly willing to receive all the favors that cost but the asking. The information the Director had was simply that which somebody in whom he had confidence had given him on his way to the Board. Of course it was mortifying to a Board for investigating to be thus duped, but the lesson is worth to them all that it cost. The incident is especially noticeable as having occurred among men met to resist just such impositions, and to repress such practices; and we narrate it that the experience may become part of the wisdom of other workers in Charity Organization.

SOCIETY'S LIBRARY.

Our cordial thanks are due to the following for valuable contributions to our library, viz: General Eaton, of the National Bureau of Education; D. W. Bussinger, Statistician of the Eastern Penitentiary; Associated Charities of Boston; Social Science Association of Philadelphia; Peabody Donation Fund of London; State of Massachusetts; State of Rhode Island; City of Boston; City of St. Louis; Miss Anna Hallowell. We have also received from Dr. C. E. Cadwalader twenty-seven volumes of "Suggestions for Systematic Inquiry," the "Charity Organizationist," and the "Dangerous Classes of New York," for circulation among our members, and others interested in studying the problems which environ our work.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter, from a New England friend, describes a London Charity. We wish only to make two comments upon it: 1st, that Charity cannot be disguised by payments for aid at less than its worth; and 2nd, that the English subscriber's ticket system is a very bad feature of English Charity. The institution here described is excellent, but it has, we think, features which could be improved.—EDS.

MR. EDITOR:

In the February number of THE REGISTER I find a letter on the subject of "Soup Houses." In which the writer says, after twenty-five years experience, "I am satisfied that much of the pauperism of the 4th, 5th, and part of the 7th Wards, is due to the work of the Soup Houses, of which I myself am a manager." It occurs to me that your readers may, in this connection, be interested in knowing of a London provision for the sick poor, which is not open to the fatal objection above stated.

"In a small paved court at the side of St. Pancras' Church, in the midst of one of the noisy, dirty 'Ant-hills' of London, one may read across the white blinds of a decent-looking window, the words: 'Sick Adults' and Children's Dinner Table,' being a notice to the public, and to the poor, that here, at No. 2 Woburn Court, invalid adults and sick and puny children may dine."

These words are quoted from an article of Charles Dickens, written for *All the Year Round*, February 17, 1886. And all that Mr. Dickens saw was verified by your correspondent in a later personal inspection. The article goes on to say: "It is just five minutes before 12. We push open the door and go in. The place is filled. Some are little children, some in the prime of life, some tottering and aged. These are the diners; while ranged against the wall are groups of women and girls with pails and jugs, waiting to carry home the dinners of those who are too ill to attend personally; these are the holders of green tickets; to the possessors of red tickets are allowed extra comforts, such as beef tea, wine, etc., etc. The regular diners at these rooms hold white tickets as their cards of admission." So far the account would not differ, perhaps, from that of an ordinary S. up House; but the sharp dividing line is made by the requirement of a very small daily payment by each recipient, and by the careful ferreting out of all impostors. The objects of the Charity are: 1. To help working men and women to help themselves. 2. To do this only when they are unable to work through sickness. 3. To give that which will enable them to regain their strength and return to work.

The means adopted are: 1. To give them a good dinner daily, for a week or two, of the best food procurable. 2. To relieve none but cases recommended by subscribers or a society. 3. To distribute the tickets to Hospitals and Dispensaries, and such as can recommend cases from personal knowledge.

Books of tickets of admission are bought by the benevolent and distributed under the above restrictions, rigidly enforced. With the ticket of admission each diner pays the matron two pence, if an adult, one penny, if a child; then having been required to wash their faces and hands, they sit down to a cheerful and attractive dinner table. They are clean, they have paid for their meal, and they come to it with a feeling of respectability. The rooms are well lighted and ventilated; there are clean white table cloths and crockery plates and mugs; everything shines. There are growing plants on the table, pictures on the walls, and upstairs in the children's dining room there are music boxes playing, and the "imprisoned spirit" delights the children as they eat. There is a kind welcome for every one, and a few simple words of grace before the meal begins. All the good or beauty that these poor people know of sometimes, they get here. The dinner is the same for every one; as much good roast meat, potatoes and bread as they want. They may be helped three times if they like. To those needing it, one-half a pint of ale is given, and to the children, in place of it, fruit: persistent untidiness is punished by

"no dessert." The money paid in by the diners supports the matron and pays the rent and servants. The cost of the dinners is provided for by the purchase of the tickets of admission. Ten tickets are sold for 3 shillings and 6 pence (English). To many sick and poor who have just left the Hospitals, or are convalescing from serious illness, or enfeebled by hard work and insufficient food, this provision means life; all they require perhaps is nourishing food for a few weeks, and but for these dining rooms recovery would be a long way beyond their means. Mr. Dickens says in closing his account of this enterprise: "Here there is no pauperizing quality, no doubtful or mischievous element whatever." Have you not in your soup houses an excellent foundation for a wise and helpful undertaking, like this St. Pancras' 'Sick Adults' and Children's Dinner Table?"

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

CATHARINE STREET HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

At the thirty third annual meeting of the Philadelphia Society for the Employment and Instruction of the Poor, the report of the Board of Managers stated that from the increased demand for labor arising from the advancing business prosperity of the community, the demand upon the society for aid has been somewhat smaller than in some previous years. The report of the matron shows that beside more than 6000 diners supplied to the sewing women and school children, 4609 nights' lodging and over 9800 meals have been furnished to applicants, many of whom have been among the most destitute of the homeless poor. It is to be desired that some practicable method could be devised by which, to all the able bodied, might be assigned some simple labor to perform both as a compensation for the assistance given and as a test of their willingness to work. Over 12,000 patients have been attended to at the dispensary, for whom 15,000 prescriptions have been compounded.

The department for the employment of sewing women has been carried on at very little expense to the society, and a number of the women employed have been able to secure the means of earning a living elsewhere. In the industrial school for white children 115 have received instruction. The school for children of color has been continued, supported, as heretofore, by two benevolent friends.

The Managers report a very large reduction in expenses of the past year, which they attribute mainly to the system of careful investigation set on foot and promoted by the SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY.

The report of the treasurer stated that the balance on hand in 1879 was \$133.83; receipts, \$6663.97; expenditures, \$6638.15; balance, \$159.65.

The Dispensary Committee reported that the cash expenditures for the year amounted to \$675.65, and the donations, \$125.99.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

At the March Meetings of the Directors an appropriation of \$50 was made to the 2d Ward Association.

The Central Employment Bureau was ordered to be closed April 1st, its registration work transferred to the Central Office, and the Committee in charge were instructed to endeavor to secure the needed work for the unemployed through existing agencies.

Messrs. D. Hayes Agnew, M.D., W. H. Allen, LL.D., Jas. J. Barclay, Alex. Biddle, Jas. S. Biddle, Hon. Jos. R. Chandler, Fred'k Collins, B. B. Comegys, Dalton Dorr, Hon. W. H. Drayton, Israel H. Johnson, Hon. Alex. Henry, John E. Graeff, S. D. Gross, M. D., Thos. C. Hand, Benj. Lee, M. D., Wm. V. McKean, S. Weir Mitchell, M. D., John M. Ogden, R. E. Rogers, M. D., Edward T. Steel, Jas. T. Shinn, Wm. Waterall, Hon. John Welsh, and Edward S. Whelen, were elected Honorary Members.

The Ward Boards were recommended to change the title of their Committees "on Correspondence," to that of "Correspondence and Co-operation," to prevent the main work of the committee, which is to secure local co-operation, being overlooked.

The Committee on Charter reported upon the subject of the power of the Magistrates to abate the evil of mendicancy, as follows:

"1st.—That, in their opinion, the Magistrates have no power to abate the evil referred to. All they have to do with the matter is to pass upon the individual cases of persons arrested for vagrancy, etc., with reference to the sufficiency of evidence to justify a commitment of the persons arrested.

"2d.—That it is competent for the police force of the city, as well as for private un-official persons, to apprehend any man who may be seen by them in the act of begging, and to take him before a magistrate for a hearing.

"It would seem, however, that females, minors under 16 years of age, blind, deaf or dumb persons and others who are unable to perform manual labor, because maimed or crippled, are exempted from arrest for the cause named."

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The Assembly held its regular monthly meeting on the evening of the 5th inst., Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the chair. After the reading of the minutes by Mr. Secretary Williams, the Chair announced the membership of a portion of the Standing Committees, as follows:

On Arrangements.—Prof. R. E. Thompson, Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, A. B. Williams, Mrs. S. I. Lesley, Mrs. O. Seidensticker.

On Visitation and Women's Work.—Mrs. S. I. Lesley, Mrs. C. M. Peterson, Mrs. J. S. J. McConnell, Miss S. Reed, Miss Beulah Coates, Mrs.

H. P. Taylor, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, Miss J. A. Myers, Miss Jane Weaver, Mrs. R. Paxson, Miss M. Paul, Mrs. R. Wharton, Mrs. J. C. Biddle, Miss Pendleton, J. P. Brinton.

On Means of Promoting Provident Habits.—Philip C. Garrett, John Clouds, J. L. Caven, Lewis Thompson, Mrs. H. Cohen, Mrs. H. T. Child, James T. Shinn, Theo. Starr, A. H. Fracker, C. C. Harrison, Mrs. R. Wharton, Mrs. Spencer Roberts, Miss C. K. Meredith, Miss Anna Hallowell, Miss Susan Roberts.

On Education and Care of Children.—George N. Torrence, J. K. Wheeler, Rev. S. Pancoast, J. C. Maule, Miss A. Hallowell, W. Y. Colladay, J. C. Biddle, A. S. McCully, Miss Pendleton, J. S. Whitney, Miss L. H. Kay, Mrs. W. C. Head, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, Miss C. K. Meredith, Frederick Collins.

On Penal and Reformatory Institutions.—Hon. W. S. Peirce, G. E. Taylor, J. C. Miller, H. M. Laing, Mrs. G. J. Simons, Job Hambleton, W. F. Lewis, Mrs. Alfred Jones, Mrs. Jos. Johnson, Miss E. C. McVicker, Wm. Ingram, Miss L. H. Kay, Mrs. T. S. Rumney, Miss Anderson, Joseph G. Rosengarten.

Mrs. Lesley, as Chairman of the Committee on Visitation and Women's Work, reported that they had held three meetings, and discussed several plans for developing the important branch of work of which the consideration had been intrusted to them. The title suggests so large a scope that it will require the thoughtful study of the summer to bring out the best ideas for practical application. An important step has been taken in deciding to visit, by a sub-committee, as many as practicable of the Ward Corps of Visitors at their stated meetings, for the purpose of better mutual acquaintance, of proffering assistance and of friendly conference. Thus will be formed another bond of union between the various wards. The best suggestions from the experiences of the various wards will be made common property. The committee desires to be received by each Corps simply as guests, and will prosecute all its intercourse in a free and elastic manner; and should any body of Visitors desire special guidance on practical points arising in their work, will call to their aid any person or influence which may contribute light on the matter in question. In this way they may carry cheer and encouragement to the distant Visitors who from various causes cannot attend the Women's General Conferences, giving them that sense of co-operation which those enjoy who are more conveniently located.

Mr. Rudolph Blankenburg's paper on "Charity Organization Societies in Europe," being next in order, he stated that the subject was too large to be discussed in a single evening, and he must content himself with dealing only with the "Society to Prevent Poverty in Berlin," as the one with which he was most conversant. To prevent poverty is a grand idea; and while the aims of the founders are excellent, they may seem visionary until understood.

The Berlin Society originated much like our own, ten years ago, among a few who desired to relieve the sufferings of the poor, to combat the effrontery of the mendicant, to rouse the rich from their apathy. It now numbers over 15,000 members. After two years the authorities of Berlin gave it a liberal charter, under which it has been so successful that no European capital has less suffering, less beggary, and less real poverty. It met with the popular prejudice to innovations, and the adverse criticisms of papers and persons not familiar with their aims, equally with our own Philadelphia Society.

One of their reports says: "We still encounter and must overcome errors and prejudices among the people. As, for example, a newspaper states that one of our aims is to do away with all private benevolence, when our special function is to foster and promote it."

The objects of the Berlin Society are mainly identical with ours, the chief endeavor being to prevent poverty by striking at its causes; and to help those in distress through misfortune or accident, when possible, by such loans as will nerve and encourage them to help themselves. Some loans are made as large as \$300. A furrier of family was taken hopelessly insane, and after his surplus means were exhausted, the wife, bewildered and crushed under her load, appealed to the Society. Thorough examination showed that his business was worth continuing under careful oversight; they loaned her \$300 to revive it, gave her friendly counsel in conducting it, and so guided her to success that she speedily repaid the loan, supported herself and children, and also contributed towards the board of her husband in an asylum. How soon, but for this Society, would her means have been consumed, and she and her children a tax as paupers upon the public?

In the Berlin Society management no distinction of sex exists, women and men voting and holding office on entire equality. They report that the women's work is more than desirable; that they take the most active part in the movement; and that without their help their present success would have been impossible. The Berlin ladies are less eager and less accustomed to such work than ours.

The contributions to the Berlin Society were in—

1870.....	\$18,750	1874.....	\$25,000
1872.....	22,500	1877.....	27,500

In some years, one-half of their expenditures have been loans, which are repaid, and are, therefore, so much capital for further use. Its members were in round numbers in—

1873.....	8,500	1877.....	12,500
1874.....	9,500	1880.....	15,000

Their expenses, like ours, cannot be proportioned to the sums disbursed, but must be considered in the light of the labor and personal influence exerted, neither of which can be computed by arithmetic.

A prominent feature is assisting the poor to purchase sewing machines (mostly American). They mainly put the buyers on their honor, and are rarely deceived. This plan might be adopted by us, and thus save many from the rigorous regulations of inexorable dealers.

[A graphic description of the poverty existing in Eastern Prussia, where he had visited, was also given; but the crowded state of our columns prevents our printing it.]

In conclusion he urged the importance of our work among the children. If we can make them industrious, honest and thrifty we have won half the battle; and thus our children, if not we, will reap the benefit by better and happier surroundings.

The topic "The Superiority of Permanent and Adequate Relief, to that which is Temporary," was next considered, Mr. Nelson F. Evans, of the Union Benevolent Association, opening the discussion.

Mr. Evans said that charitable relief should always be that best calculated to benefit the community, as well as the destitute, rather than that which may suit our inclination or convenience. Next to immediate help in urgent cases, the vital question is: How can we so help the applicant for relief as to graduate him from the ranks of the dependent?

The care of the needy requires much the same principles as govern men in business relations; and here also, "What is worth doing is worth doing well"; and it will not do to be "penny-wise and pound-foolish."

"Adequate relief" was exemplified by a late bank officer of this city, famed for success in making money for his bank, and in helping merchants through difficulties. If a dealer showed weakness and alarm, he would send for him, cheer him with sympathy and win his confidence as a friend. Then together they would privately, but thoroughly, investigate his affairs, and if their condition justified, the officer would decide what accommodations the merchant needed to lift him *entirely* out of his troubles, and pledge him sufficient support, provided he believed the man could be saved from failure by such liberal treatment. Shrewd men lauded his wisdom and his friendship, for by such adequate relief, after exhaustive investigation, he rescued the merchant from bankruptcy, saved his bank from the loss it would have suffered by his failure, and retained a customer and friend of great future value. This was adequate relief from a strong hand, given with intelligence and judgment; and such a policy is just as feasible in charitable as in mercantile relief.

A southern woman with a delicate daughter was found friendless and destitute. The lady visitor in charge, after much effort, secured a light clerkship for the daughter. Discovering that the mother had long treated the daughter for some affliction of her feet, it was suggested that she might do well as a chiropodist. The visitor supplied means for the mother to go to various chiropodists for personal treatment by each, until by careful watching she had learned the trade. Then with kind recommendation to friends, this helpless woman soon created a profitable business, and now supports herself handsomely in nice quarters of her own. She was taught to do something well, and so helped out of dependence.

In Boston an educational laundry has been started, where women practice washing their own garments until such proficiency is acquired that by samples of their work they can secure all the customers they can serve. They may bring their work to the laundry without charge for rent. In a few months 25 women have thus been instructed, and graduated out of dependence by being taught to do something well, and then how to get that work to do. Schools for sewing, cooking and other industries, are also started by the women there engaged in methodizing charity. The aged and infirm, of course, form exceptions and need different treatment; but many who otherwise would be dragging out wretched lives under easy, unorganized charity, are now graduated out of the ranks of beggary. This will be difficult while so many relieving agencies give only petty doles, repeated year after year, till all hope of reformation dies out. It is easier for us to help people a little *in* poverty, but it is infinitely better for them to be speedily helped out of poverty.

Miss Dr. Dodson, of the 3d Ward Corps, illustrated the difference between the two modes of Charity as that between "plus" and "minus;" or, between \$1000 invested, and \$1000 in debt,—an ever increasing difference. That which leads to thrift and self help, ever elevating; that which enervates, ever deepening the depression. The applicant is like a man with a broken limb; a splint will do for a while, but if worn too long it will produce only a weak and shrivelled member. This is an age of advanced Charity as well as advanced surgery, and many a case, by a careful diagnosis and proper treatment may be placed at once upon its feet.

Mr. Philip C. Garrett thought the proposition before the meeting sounded very much like an axiom, and the statement like its own demonstration. There is however a wide field in considering what forms temporary relief, and what modes prove to be permanent. One person, to his surprise, considered permanent relief to indicate perpetual *i. e.* incurable poverty, while we mean that relief which provides a *permanent* cure.

A most manifest point of superiority of permanent over temporary relief is its economy; for while the results are in the proportion of capital to income, the *real outlay* is not much greater in the former than the latter. Thus the cost of a volunteer corps of ladies, who by wise neighborly counsel infuse new vigor and hope into despondent hearts, and nerve listless hands to productive industry, is far less than a ponderous system of Almshouses and Poor Boards which foster and perpetuate poverty. One aims to end poverty, the other to keep it. The one is prevention, the other cure.

He recently visited the most squalid abodes of the freedmen of Virginia. Their homes were kennels without windows, and the interiors beggar description in their rags and dirt. He found that an acre of land with snug, tight, well-lighted cabins would cost but \$100 each, while they now pay \$3 to \$4 a month, and the aid in clothing, medicine and food necessitated by their degradation cost nearly the remainder of \$100 a year. If capital equal to the annual expenses of these wretched families could be used in one immediate investment in a new channel, it might suffice for

their permanent cure; let them live in light, self-respect, and pride of home, and thrift and industry would result.

We may still farther find superiority in such capitalized relief. How much better to secure employment for an idle household, than to feed them and leave them in idleness; to teach a man a trade, or a woman needlework, than to leave them to the chances of unskilled labor; to induce them to economize in the summer in favor of fuel or building or savings schemes against the hunger and cold of the next winter; to loan one a little money as capital for self-support, than to maintain him by alms.

An obstacle to honest labor, needing "permanent and adequate" removal is street-beggary. As long as a million and a half of money is given to vagabonds for the asking, of course 2000 such will prefer begging \$2 per day to working for it. We learn that this begging is protected by the tramp law, which provides no remedy without a jury trial, and no one will bring these 2000 vagrants to a jury trial; and this *laissez faire* process costs us a sheer waste of over a million a year. Begging might be made burdensome, the tramp act might be made effective, but meanwhile the bleeding goes on under the plea of temporary relief to poverty; and so pauperism is fostered by unwise rulers and by unorganized Charity. Still let us patiently work on until all obstacles are removed by all possible means of permanent relief.

Rev. Chas. Loring Brace of New York was introduced to the Assembly with a reference to his great work among the poor children of that city. He had had misgivings about our plan, lest it did not sufficiently recognize that the main work must be done with the children, but the experience of this evening satisfied him that we had attained the foundation principles of Charity, and were applying them. Their work was begun in the worst wards with Industrial or half-time schools for those whom parents or street lives have detained from the common schools, and who have heretofore grown up as criminals, paupers or beggars. Their industrial schools conform somewhat to our Ward Associations as to restricting the city, and they educate by all available means as kindergartens, kitchen-gardens, savings funds, etc. The Italian children are taught lace manufacture, this being a new branch of work, also printing, and especially hand-sewing for the girls, as a foundation for other and better work. Now we have 9000 children in 32 schools, and of all the 50,000 children in our schools in 25 years, not one has grown up to be a pauper, and not over 3 in 1000 have become criminals even where they came from the worst origin. This has been proved not only by observation but by the prison commitments and returns, and by the great decrease of children's crimes. Our lodging houses are for those homeless by misfortune, who else would be forced into criminal life. He helped start them 25 years ago, as a sort of Street Boys' Hotel, where they could be lodged and fed until homes could be found for them in the country. Now the Society has six lodging houses, sheltering 14,000 children a year, and nowhere can more orderly and attentive audiences be found than at their Sunday night gatherings. In the girls' lodging house various employments are furnished; a laundry which pays a profit, a dressmaking department, which is very successful and has orders from all parts of the country, and a sewing school where girls are taught; thus cutting off a great supply of the future crop of vagrants and criminals. The results have been very great, and this will be the hopeful part of our work. Newspaper criticism is not to be dreaded, and will pass away as the work is well done and better understood. The New York Industrial Schools are supported by both state and private aid, and if without state aid, their maintenance could be drawn from wealthy citizens.

Such Ward schools could be better started here by local means than by one united effort, as the former would elicit more interest. Volunteer teachers are invaluable, creating more enthusiasm, infusing more purity and ambition; each needs one paid teacher to take the heavy part of the work, supplemented by volunteer ladies. They are called Industrial schools, because half the time is devoted to such trades and sewing as will teach the pupils how to support themselves. It is not difficult to get the children; the Visitors draw in some incipient vagrants, and soon all the rest drift in. In New York licenses are sought for boys for street trades based on half-time attendance at school. Irregularity is met by offering simple noon-meals, chiefly bread and molasses, to which the ladies often add good dinners. In the schools moral training is given, but in the lodging-houses religious teaching is also given, and the teachers gain great influence and confidence.

Rev. Dr. Wayland moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Brace, coupled with a request that he should soon come again and give us an entire evening.

Mrs. John Lucas called attention to the Silk Culture Association just formed, hoping through this channel to offer new and profitable employment, which could be done in homes. This Association is now fully organized, and all Visitors were invited to their next meeting to aid in maturing co-operation. This has been eminently woman's work from its origin in China 2500 years B. C. Its magnitude promises great opportunities, and it is fitted for industrial schools, and apparently can be made profitable and successful, while affording possible partial solution of the employment question.

The Chair enforced the practical bearings of the discussions in a few well-timed remarks, and the Assembly adjourned.

SEVENTH WARD COOKING SCHOOL.

The energetic Visitors of this Ward opened, recently, another of these valuable educational schemes for improving the house life of the poor. The 8th Ward Association's kitchen and implements were courteously placed at their disposal, and a class of 32, white and colored, was gathered stately for six weeks to learn plain, wholesome and economical cooking

which would add to the comfort and health of their families. All showed great interest and appreciation of the efforts in their behalf. At each lesson the food was prepared before the class, with careful explanations, and a series of questions to elicit the impressions made, and then all sat down to partake of the food thus prepared; and so a cheerful evening and wholesome meal were given to many whose daily existence is a struggle with poverty and sorrow; and had no more than this been accomplished, the Visitors would have felt compensated for the labor and money bestowed.

Receipts for each preparation were eagerly taken home by members of the class; the dishes consisting of soup, boiled and fried potatoes, coffee, tea, breads of various kinds, liver, baked beans, omelets, etc. Prizes were offered for the best loaves of bread, which gave a stimulating effect to the energies of the class. The whole expense of the undertaking did not exceed \$10.00. The ladies in charge deduce from their experience that such classes, to secure the best good to each member, should be limited to 10 persons. They also speak emphatically of the moral benefit upon the poor in the mingling of the Visitors with their poor neighbors in such occupations as prove to the latter that a practical knowledge of the drudgery of household work is not beneath the dignity of ladies of any sphere, thus dissipating the foolish notion, so prevalent among the working classes, that manual labor is a barrier to a rise in life. Ten dollars spent in such friendly ministrations is worth more to the poor than a thousand disbursed in blind alms-giving.

The 8th and 9th Ward Boards of Directors have united in the employment of the same Superintendent (Dr. E. P. Jefferis), and in a few days will occupy jointly the same office at 1534 Sansom St. We are very glad to note the conjunction of these two central and influential Wards in the interests of economy of administration.

THE WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE,

For March, was held on the 8th ultimo, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham in the chair, and Mrs. Alfred Jones, Secretary. 17 Wards were represented by a goodly number of Visitors, and some invited guests were present.

Fifteen Wards with 530 Visitors made reports. There were 1038 cases aided on the recommendation of the Visitors, being a small fraction less than two cases to each Visitor. Twelve Wards report that for the same month last year there were 1174 cases aided, and this year 883, a decrease of 291. The reasons assigned for this decrease, are the mildness of the weather, the revival of industry, the discovery of unworthiness and imposture, and the unwillingness of applicants to take what was offered them. Two Wards report an increase in their grants, attributing this to sickness and want of employment. In nearly every ward efforts are made to find employment, and to instruct dependent persons in some useful art. In the 10th Ward investigation had been made of 800 applicants with respect to their ability to work, and it was found that only one-tenth of them had any trade or technical skill.

Miss Anna Halliwell, Chairman of a special Committee appointed to enquire into the condition, numbers and needs of destitute, neglected and vagrant children, reported that there seemed to be no large class of vagrants, but many neglected and destitute children. The 6th Ward Association makes a special point of keeping the children of their applicants in school. The 7th Ward Visitors have a kindergarten for the children of the same class, too young for Public School, which serves both as a day-nursery and for industrial training. The 10th Ward Association has cognizance of 217 children from 3 to 12 years, needing an industrial school. The 22d Ward strictly requires that its beneficiaries shall keep their children of proper age at school, supplying clothes if necessary. In parts of the city gangs of young thieves exist, taken often into custody but as often released by the efforts of men associated with and making use of them for their own purposes. Hundreds lead a questionable life in selling papers. One bright girl, when asked why she did not go to school, said, "how can I? I make \$2 a day and have to take the money home; mother can't make enough and father's no good."

The destitute and neglected children in Philadelphia are estimated at 25,000. A census taken for the Board of Education 12 years ago returned 21,000 such as of school age. Mr. George L. Harrison classified the absentees from schools thus—1st, those in the streets without guardianship or fixed employment; 2d, those employed in manufacturing establishments; 3d, those kept away by parents to assist them; and 4th, those in the country kept from earliest years at farm work.

If the Guardians and the Ward Associations would jointly agree in enforcing the regulation refusing aid to families keeping their children from school, much good would result. Children turned out to beg and peddle, or waste their days in idleness and vice are grossly neglected, and congregate in haunts of crime and degradation. Fathers and even mothers are sadly derelict in the care of their children, and many are therefore thrown on the public for support, the criminal going to reformatories, and the delinquent and pauper going to refuges and alms-houses, and thus they meet associations that are pernicious and degrading.

What is the remedy? By real education, intellectual, moral and religious, by free schools for those who will come, and compulsory industrial schools for those subject to police interference. The power of love and not fear can best affect the spirit of these children. Various mission, sewing and training schools are doing much; but there is a sub-stratum of dangerous and perishing ones demanding attention. The former, now ignorant and depraved, will fill our prisons when present occupants have passed on, and their support therein burden our tax-payers beyond endurance; and who if allowed to increase, as heretofore may defy all social barriers and raze our political strongholds to the ground. The latter, in their hereditary depravity and weakness, born to contract with only what is vile, developing with hideous precocity, appeal most tenderly for our sympathy and protection. Such work as is done by the Children's Aid Society of New York in lodging houses, industrial schools and homes in the West, has and can save thousands from degradation and vice, and there is material enough in Philadelphia to enlist every willing heart. Industrial schools form habits of work, train the mind, and fit for profitable pursuits in life. The kindergartens commence the training, and from thence whole classes may be transferred to public schools. The Half-time Day-Industrial-Feeding-Schools of England would meet another need. All

these afford prevention which is so much better than cure. The benefits of such schools for a generation are well proved by the experience of Aberdeen, Scotland, from 1840 to 1870, where the

	1840	1870
Adult vagrants were reduced from	2230	to 350
Minor " " " "	370	to 79
Children supported by theft or begging from	280	to none

Save a child and you will make a citizen. Educate him so as to prevent the need of punishing him as a man, and you will need fewer alms houses and penitentiaries, will have less pauperism, sounder morals, purer religion. Work for children gives hope and encouragement which that for adults fails to yield.

After the reading of the report, Miss Frances E. Willard of Chicago, was introduced and made a most earnest and stirring appeal to the ladies to work among the children. She gave for illustration and encouragement as well, the experience of the ladies of Chicago. They started Industrial Schools, and, having hired halls and made them attractive with simple decoration, they found little difficulty in inducing the children to attend. The ladies taking advantage of the boys' inborn love of working with tools, fitted the room with work-benches, and common implements, and taught the boys how to use them with profit to themselves. Then, having enlisted their interest and established friendly relations, they cautiously proceeded to draw their attention to the simplest rules of etiquette, they induced many of them to give up the use of tobacco and many also to sign the pledge, so that when a year had passed, the change in the boys was marked.

Mrs. Wolcott, of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Boston, followed in a similar strain.

The question "What is adequate relief?" led to an animated discussion, it being the general opinion that each case, being individual, special and peculiar treatment is required.

SUMMARY.

The following returns have been made to the Central Office by the Ward Associations for the first three months of 1880. They are given in a column parallel with the returns for the same months in 1879, for the purpose of ready comparison.

I. RELIEF WITHHELD.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
Vagrants.....	330	138	58 Dec.
Referred to their own Wards.....	1,391	446	68 "
Not requiring relief.....	1,140	340	68 "
Underserving.....	592	161	73 "
Ineligible.....	86	52	39 "
False address.....	176	34	81 "
Total.....	3,715	1,171	

II. OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
Guardians of the Poor.....	435	106	76 Dec.
Institutions and Local Agencies.....	276	172	38 "
Private Persons.....	13	13	
Total.....	724	291	

III. RELIEVED BY WARD ASSOCIATIONS.	1879.	1880.	PERCENT.
By grant of food and fuel.....	13,212	10,885	18 Dec.
By loans.....	11	22	100 Inc.
By employment.....	90	245	173 "
Total.....	13,313	11,152	
Value of grants.....	\$11,282.04	\$5,631.18	50 Dec.
Value of loans.....	\$31.15	\$52.60	68 Inc.

This exhibit is in many respects highly satisfactory. It will be noticed in the first, from which relief has been withheld, that there has been a great decrease of rovers from place to place, while applicants not needing relief have fallen to less than one-third of their number a year ago. The greatest decrease is among the underserving and false addresses, showing that the attempt to practice imposition upon the Associations has been largely abandoned. The second class represents the measure of the Society's co-operation with other relieving agencies. The falling off in the Guardian's list arises from the cutting off of city-out-door relief this winter except for medical treatment. In the third class, the number of grants has not decreased in the same proportion as applicants of the first class. Eighty-two per centum of last year's number are retained on our lists, but at about half the expense. This indicates a better knowledge of the deserving poor, and an improved condition in their circumstances, both of which are causes of congratulation. Relief by employment and loans has increased at a highly promising ratio; but this form of aid needs energetic and fuller development.

A gentleman stated at a charity meeting in London this incident: "He had lately asked a lady, who had for some time past been most active in distributing food to the poor of Greenwich, whether she would name any family which had been permanently benefited by her charity; and she emphatically answered, 'No, not one.'"

OTHER SOCIETIES.

PEABODY DONATION FUND.

We have received from the Trustees of the Peabody Donation Fund their Fifteenth Annual Report (for 1879) in which we find the following interesting items:

The total gifts of Mr. Peabody amounted to £500,000. The Trustees have up to the present time erected for the artisan and laboring poor of London 11 groups of buildings, containing a total of 5,170 rooms, exclusive of bath-rooms, laundries and wash-houses. These rooms comprise 2,355 separate buildings, which are occupied by 9,905 individuals. The death rate in the Peabody Buildings the past year was 20.09 per thousand, which is 3.21 less than that of all London for the same period.

The average weekly earnings of the head of each family in residence at the end of the year was about \$5.95. The average rent of each dwelling was \$1.05 per week, and of each room, 49 cents. The rents in all cases include the free use of water, laundries, sculleries and bath-rooms.

The Trustees have made arrangements for purchasing land for 6 additional groups in widely diverse parts of London, covering an area of over 9 acres, and costing about \$500,000. The buildings to cover these sites will be of the same superior character as those hitherto erected, and will cost about \$1,800,000.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S REPORT TO MANAGERS OF THE NEW YORK "SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING CONDITION OF THE POOR."

The work of special investigation has steadily progressed, and a good deal of interesting and valuable information has been obtained, affecting not only individual applicants, but showing how general is the practice of the class known as the "rounder" and the "professional," and that their number increases.

Your Secretary very much fears that the Vagrancy Law, as it now stands, is an obstacle rather than a help to the Association in dealing with such cases.

The class of applicants for the City Coal, has been of a better grade this winter than at the last, and your Secretary believes that with a corps of selected paid Visitors, the distribution of the City Coal can be done at a comparatively small expense to the city, and a great amount of good conferred.

Ninety-two tenement houses have been reported to the health authorities as being defective in their sanitary appointments. The condition of these houses as stated in the returns of the Visitors is shocking.

In speaking of one of these houses, one Visitor says: "The condition of this house is horrible beyond description;" "The odor from this house," said another, "was so foul that I would not go in to see the family," as he had been especially asked to do.

"It is a hard duty," said a police officer to a Visitor going over the tenement houses of his beat; "but," he added, with a generous sigh of sympathy, "it will be harder for the man who comes after me, he will have so much more to do." "Then there is no abatement of the evil?" asked the Visitor. "No," was the reply, "it is increasing." If this thoughtful man could dread the future for his successor in office, may it not be proper to inquire, in view of the spread of communism, socialism, Kearneyism, and general discontent among the wage class, how will this teeming population, destined to be voters for the legislatures of the States, and for judges to administer the law, conduct itself? and may not the citizen of substance and of family inquire what is the possible future for the darling members of his own pure fireside.

The connection between street cleaning and the work of this Association is very intimate. Dirty, neglected streets in tenement house districts, exercise a pernicious influence upon the cleanly disposed poor, endanger the public health, and directly impair the health of thousands of poor families, who tearing arrest and fine if they throw their refuse in the street, and being certain of losing their barrel or box, if they have such a receptacle to use, are compelled to retain the offensive matter in their dwellings for days and even weeks.

COFFEE TAVERNS.

"A year and a half ago (*Nation*, No. 692) we spoke here of a little tract, printed by Collins Brothers, describing the cocoa-rooms of the British Workman Public Company of Liverpool. We will recall so much of it as to say that these places of resort were intended to compete with the grog-shops; that there were at the time indicated twenty-nine of them in successful operation; and that success meant ten per cent. dividends on a capital of \$100,000. This tract seems to have borne fruit, for we have before us the prospectus of the New York Coffee House Company, Limited, which begins with a capital stock of \$50,000, in two thousand shares of \$25 each. The Liverpool example, and similar experiments in London, Glasgow and Edinburgh, are referred to as models. When we have given the names of the directors, viz., Messrs. Morris K. Jesup, Henry E. Pellew, Cornelius R. Agnew, Charles Collins, Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., Joseph W. Drexel, John A. Stewart and Wm. H. Appleton, and of the bankers, the United States Trust Company, 49 Wall street, we have done all that is necessary to show that this philanthropic enterprise is in the best of hands, morally and financially. We strongly urge all who wish their benevolence to take a practical shape, and who realize the evils of intemperance in our overcrowded metropolis, to invest in the shares of this company, with or without regard to dividends. Not more than a quarter of the subscription will be called for during one year. Mr. Drexel is chairman of the company, Mr. Jesup, treasurer, and Mr. Pellew, secretary; the temporary office is at No. 103 Madison avenue."—*The Nation*, March 11, 1880.

Referring to the above we have received from our fellow Philadelphian, Joseph W. Drexel, Esq., copies of the prospectus in question, with letters from which we quote as follows:

"I opened two coffee-houses within the last eighteen months, at a cost of over \$6,500, and feeling that my time and purse would be too severely taxed by assuming the whole burden, and having many other benevolent schemes on hand, I turned the affair into a Company. I made my shops very nearly pay their way, and under more efficient supervision, and on a more extensive scale, I believe they will pay a fair dividend on the capital invested. The Superintendent should be paid a small salary and have a percentage on profits. He should be imbued with a love for such work and have full faith in it. He should have ability to manage men and to attract them to him, as he will have to change the habits of men. In a word, he must make himself 'popular,' as a tavern-keeper would do in order to succeed. Strict cleanliness must be insisted upon. Good articles at lowest paying prices. If two grades of customers are to be catered for, let the basement be for the cheaper class. Oak or solid topped wooden tables, always kept bright and clean, served by men or women in clean aprons, a woman as cashier, and

the same for the second floor, with the addition of clean table cloths, napkins, etc., charging, of course, a higher price.

"I should like to see in the city of my birth the houses spreading in every street."

FROM REPORT OF MANAGERS OF THE GERMANTOWN HOSPITAL.

"As suggested in the report for last year, in order to prevent imposition upon the charitable relief of the dispensary, an arrangement has been made with the 22d Ward Association, whereby all applicants, before returning for further treatment, are required to bring a card from that Association stating that they are proper objects for assistance. This admirable Association has kindly co-operated with the Board, and although for a time there was some defect in carrying out the plan, for the last three months it has been in full operation. Hence we feel an assurance that none are receiving gratuitous relief who are not worthy, while the Ward Association make at the same time a proper discrimination, so that those honest families who are temporarily in need, and not paupers, receive the benefits of the Dispensary, as it was designed they should do when it was founded."

THE ROSINE ASSOCIATION.

Held their annual meeting April 1st, when the reports for the past year were submitted to the members and contributors. The present number of inmates is 15 and 4 infants. They have accommodations for several more, but not means enough to provide for them, having been compelled to encroach upon their invested funds, and to borrow money during the past year. Their receipts during the past year were but \$1,337.75, and their expenses \$2,557.04. The Board of Directors remains unchanged from last year. Such work for the bodies and souls of erring women deserves full support.

HOME MISSIONARY QUARTERLY.

We are happy to welcome into the field of charitable literature the little sheet above named, of which the HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY has begun the publication, for the purpose of "enlightening the public as to the labors of tried and trusted agents—their contests, trials and success." The main features of the work of this excellent Society are "The spread of the Gospel, the relief of the worthy poor and the care of destitute children." In the latter department it does much judicious work, and has co-operated with our Ward Associations in providing homes in selected country families for neglected and destitute children of both sexes.

NOTES.

GREENWICH C. O. S., ENG.—The Committee continued to aid the poor chiefly by loans. A capital of only £35 had proved sufficient to enable them to lend £786 since they commenced operations, and the loss during the past year had only been 5s. 6d. out of £69, the total sum lent. They also realized the value of convalescent homes as a means of enabling persons who were recovering from illness to get into work again. During the past year they had assisted 17 cases, at a cost of £34, from the Convalescent Fund in Christ Church Parish.

Rev. S. H. Gurteen says: "Among the provident schemes which the Society is setting on foot to help the poor to be self-supporting, one of the most important is the Crèche, where poor working-women may leave their young children to be washed and fed and cared for while they are at work. In urging the necessity of such an institution, we spoke of that terrible curse of 'baby farming,' so prevalent in some of the cities of Europe; how the little ones are drugged by fiends who make their living by professing to care for children, and then by means of drugs or spirits sap the vitality of these little ones, leaving them no chance in their struggle for life. We were told that America had not yet sunk to such a depth of degradation as that. But only the other day we learned through the investigations of one of our Agents that 'baby farming' did exist in America, and that, too, in the City of Buffalo, though not, perhaps in its most aggravated form."

[Baby-farming has several times been unearthed by the police in Philadelphia within a few years.]

POOR RELIEF IN PARIS.—A correspondent of the *New York Nation* explains the system of public relief in Paris, under a director appointed by the Home Minister. This director organizes all the hospitals and hospices or asylums, assisted by a council of twenty, and is guardian of all abandoned children. The Public Relief is supported by legacies, and by a tax on all theatres, ball rooms, concerts and places of amusement, as well as by a duty on the profits of the *Mont de Piete* and one-fifth of the price of land devoted to cemeteries. There still remains a deficit of about twelve millions of francs; and this is supplied from the city taxes. The Budget for 1879 is about twenty-five millions of francs, or five millions of dollars. Paris has a hospital bed for every 235 inhabitants. There is also a "home relief" system, costing about a million of dollars. Contributors to a "Bureau of Beneficence" are privileged to give poor applicants letters to the bureau, where officers who know all the streets of the city and the condition of the inhabitants make due inquiries. In the beginning of 1878 there were 113,317 individuals inscribed on the rolls of the bureau, showing one poor Parisian for every seventeen inhabitants. Many of these require only slight relief, about three dollars or so in the year. The correspondent says that "real and absolute misery is a rare thing in Paris."

From London Charity Organization Society Reporter, Eng.: "The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, in an article on 'Organized Charity,' makes the following pertinent remarks: 'The organization of charitable relief is not looked upon with any particular kindness by the large body of the public. Most people like to be their own almoners. A penny given to a shivering beggar in the streets represents to the donor a certain amount of quiet satisfaction and consciousness of virtue. These accidental charities warm the heart. They make one feel that one has done a good action and made the sum of human misery a trifle less. No such gratifying feeling is to be got out of a yearly subscription to a charity organization

society. The arrangement assumes the aspect of a mere matter of business. Generous people do not see the institution which they relieve. Their feelings are neither harrowed by the sight of misery nor soothed by the act of giving. Yet the chances are ten to one that in bestowing relief at random they are encouraging vice, giving a premium to laziness, and subsidizing imposture. In one way or another an enormous amount of money must be annually expended in charity. If it could be collected into a common fund it would probably suffice to relieve all the real distress in the country. Yet there cannot be a doubt that a large proportion of it is so misapplied that it might as well be thrown into the gutter. Professional beggars, tramps, scamps, idlers, and drunkards get what ought to be spent in relieving shamefaced misery, in clothing the naked and in feeding the hungry. Just because so much generosity is wasted, and so much destitution is left unrelieved, charity organization becomes a necessity.

CASES.

A DAY IN A WARD OFFICE.

One of our beneficiaries comes in to say "I want to get one of my sub-tenants out of a room. She is drunken and disorderly, and I fear she will burn the house down." This attended to, a lady Visitor comes in and says "What is to be done with Mrs. G——? There she is, with five children, in a deplorable plight." We inform her that it has been decided to allow the Church to take entire charge of this case, but if she wishes we will go to the minister and see whether he acknowledges the supervision. We go, and the minister knew of the case, but declined to say what was being done with it.

In the same precinct with the last is Mary McC., far gone in consumption, an habitual drunkard, and with such poor surroundings one hardly knows what to advise. The Out-Door Physician (of the Guardians of the Poor) coming in, we go with him to visit this case. He prescribes for her and exhorts her to abstain from drink. By the time we had returned to the office we receive a note from Mrs. M. saying her rent is due and her husband's broken arm will not allow him to return to his work, and she suffers from partial blindness, so she cannot thread her machine needle. Being English people, a reference is made to the St. George's Society. The Union Benevolent Association are also appealed to, and they send her coal. We have clothed her little girl, and she is attending school regularly. One feeble-minded child will claim our attention later. One of the churches in the Ward kindly devoted a collection to paying this family's rent.

CASE 34.—J. B.—— was a vagrant sent to this office by a philanthropic citizen. The man had been a nurse in some of the large hospitals and brought good recommendations of faithfulness when on duty. When off, he would drink liquor. We sent him to the "Reformatory Home," but he could not be taken in at once. He came to the office every day for two weeks seeking something to do. Finally, getting discouraged, he was hiring himself to a saloon-keeper, when Mr. Graff, of the "Reformatory Home," hearing of it, took him in and put him under treatment for his weakness. He is now in steady employment with a prospect of thoroughly reforming his life. We have given him such relief as seemed suitable to his necessities. He writes to us now:—

"I trust God will reward you and the Committee, as well as the Organization, for your goodness in aiding me in time of distress; for I must say I felt myself unworthy of Charity from any one."

CASE 35.—A woman asks assistance in the 29th Ward on the ground that she is a widow, has a sick widowed daughter with a step child, and another daughter who is deserted by her husband, although he is working on a railroad with good wages. A clergyman is in the habit of visiting the sick woman and administering the communion to her. On investigation it appears that the applicant has a husband living who has left her, and that the sick daughter is an opium eater and notorious for her profane and quarrelsome talk. Inquiry as to whether the other daughter's husband can be put under bonds to provide for her maintenance results in the discovery that there is no proof of marriage. A government arrearage of pension was obtained by this family last summer amounting to \$900, of which a good share was spent in buying a parlor organ. Through the intervention of the Visitors the step child was placed out at service in a decent household, but did not remain there long, voluntarily going back to her old home.

CASE 36.—A man brought to this city his family (wife, three children and sister-in-law) from New York, placed them in a furnished house and deserted them. A few weeks they heard that he was in jail for stealing. Without friends, or any resources but selling their furniture, when visited by the Superintendent they had but two bedsteads, 3 chairs and a cook stove left. He wrote friends where they had formerly resided and found their statements were true, and their relatives would take care of them if they came back, but were too poor to pay their fare. Passage was procured at less than half rate, and their furniture sold for a sum which more than paid for their fares, the balance being enough for all other expenses. This case did not cost the Association a cent, but involved a large amount of personal service, and illustrates a friendly work far better than almsgiving. Too proud to beg, their next door neighbors did not know their condition. Timely action enabled them to return home at their own expense, and relieved the city of a family whose situation was fast forcing them to desperation.

CASE 37.—A Visitor reports: "The family of Mrs. M——, who were so destitute this past winter have obtained work, and last week handed me 25 cents as a contribution to our Ward. I refused the money, but found this made them feel so badly that I was compelled to accept it. It showed they appreciated our assistance. They told me we had been the means of great good to them, and said we need not help them any more. And now they feel able to give their mite."

CASE 38.—The same Visitor adds: "Another family of nine, whose we have rendered assistance, sent for me last week and insisted on my taking a donation of 25 cents for the Ward Association. These are instances of a nobler spirit and life than those of dependence and beggary."

* * * The aim of this Society is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the Poor. Annual Memberships \$5; Life Memberships \$500. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Gen'l Secretary.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 15, 1880.

[No. 7

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY,

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Henry C. Lea, Esq., No. 416 Walnut street, or to the Central Office, No. 1429 Market Street.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday,	May 24,	8 P. M.	Board of Directors.
Saturday,	June 5,	8 P. M.	Superintendents' Meeting.
Monday,	June 7,	8 P. M.	Assembly,
Monday,	June 14,	10 A. M.	Women's General Conference.
"	"	8 P. M.	Board of Directors.

EDITORIAL.

The combination of the Eighth and Ninth Ward Associations in the support of a common office and Superintendent has been completed and Dr. E. P. Jefferis is in their service in the building 1534 Sansom street. This is not the first such union of Associations, as the Eleventh and Twelfth Wards have joined in a like arrangement and successfully operated all the past winter. But this step in the central wards is particularly noticeable, because the same necessity for it did not exist as in less wealthy districts. It may therefore be supposed that reasons of efficiency have promoted this scheme, since neither Association has been reluctant to raise and spend its money freely to any required extent.

This union does not extend to any obliteration of the independency of the Boards of Direction, nor to any responsibility of one Association for the debts of the other, nor to the confounding of the two sets of records, all of which is in correspondence with the fundamental laws of this Society and with the judgment of its Board of Directors as formally expressed.

By this combination \$700 a year are saved to the two wards, while the salary of the Superintendent is advanced to a point where it is adequate to secure and retain the services of a thoroughly capable man. We are highly pleased that by this arrangement the services of Dr. Jefferis are retained, for in the varied relations which he has sustained to this Society he has made warm friends on account of the intelligence, enterprise, thoroughness and diligence of his work. Were the entire Superintendency

of the city in the hands of men of like capacity and experience, our Society would make a profound impression upon the public confidence and upon the field of charitable achievements. Wherever the Superintendency has been in good hands, there the Directors have been active, the Visitors assisted, the poor improved and economy secured. There, too, the distinctive aims of our Society have been clearly perceived and pursued.

It may not be wise or desirable that every ward should enter into a like union, but the various Associations will look more favorably on such a plan, now that so conspicuous an example of it is furnished. We shall watch with interest its effects, with the hope that they may prove satisfactory—a step forward and not backward.

Charity has many distinct forms of obligation to impose, but as they spring from the same root, not one of these forms can be neglected without injury to the other. There is the obligation to protect the body from suffering, the higher obligation to deliver heart and mind from misery, the still higher obligation to bring ourselves under the law of charity by loving generously all earnest efforts of benevolence, and there is the highest obligation to all to root out of ourselves all envy, censoriousness and retaliation. Rare are they who can raise themselves to the full measure of this complete charity. Hence the sacred cause goes halting on, in the midst of human narrowness, egotism, ambition, rivalry, jealousy, suspicion, inexcusable misunderstandings, and false accusation. Is it not a strange thing that in one community, those who profess themselves the disinterested friends of humanity, who claim sincerely to deplore its miseries, and to be moved by unselfish generosity, do not or cannot help each other, try to understand one another, and strive to present a common front? Is it not a cause of honest grief, that men, because they are attached to different organizations proclaiming the same motives and ends, should be glad to profit by each other's mistakes, rather than wish to retrieve them, should hasten to sow seeds of suspicion and aversion? There is more or less of this unamiable spirit at work hindering the good that might be done, and weakening mutual respect and confidence.

As the CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY is the only agency in the city which proposes, as far as its abilities and opportunities will permit, to bring all charitable enterprises into harmony, and all benevolent spirits into unity, it is especially incumbent upon its friends to put away "all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil-speaking, with all malice." Patience, unfaltering amiability and kindness even under provocation, will do much to hasten the day when the disinterested lovers of men in this city will be one community, bound together in sympathy, reciprocal trust and purity of purpose, enlightened by the varied experiences of each, invigorated by the enthusiasm and courage of all, and irresistible in achievement.

Our Society has been the subject of much private and public criticism. Where that has grown out of an honest doubt as to our principles, or of the natural disposition to put new measures on thorough trial, or of a just questioning of our administrations, we have no right to complain. Nor have we much reason to regret the animadversions which have come from a different temper. All criticism has drawn attention to our work and elicited an inquiry which our advocacy was all too slow in effecting. We have profited by it in substantial ways, although quite willing to admit that it has caused us some annoyance and made obstacles in some quarters for us to overcome. But our friends are more united than ever, they are more intelligent as to our work, and they are its more pronounced apostles. Where censure has been passed upon us in bitterness, it has reacted upon the censors in the minds of just people. Indeed, if it

were any satisfaction to see men make mistakes, we might take comfort in the knowledge that adherents of other Societies by the intemperance of their remarks concerning us, have injured their own organizations and produced effects the direct opposite of what they intended. But it is no honorable satisfaction to know that men whom we wish to respect have overshot their mark, and that Societies whose prosperity we should rejoice in have alienated friends.

It seems senseless folly at this stage of affairs to foster antagonism between the old rel of Societies and Charity Organization. They will not bring a penny more to any treasury, they will not drive anything from the field, they will force on false positions, and wasteful work. The truest wisdom will certainly be found in seeking concord and co-operation in a spirit of good-will. Nothing will be lost either in mental comfort or in efficient, prosperous work from generous sentiments.

Our readers have books at home which they have read through and laid up on a shelf, never or rarely to be touched again save to be dusted off, till they come to be inventoried by-and-by when "the library of the late ——— will be sold," etc. These books are not lent, because private borrowers are not always good keepers, except to keep you waiting for the books to come back. But the value of a book is in what it is capable of imparting and in the incitement it actually does give with its lessons from life, or the help it actually brings to earnest hands. If anybody's conscience pricks him for having good books, pamphlets, or articles in the line of thoughtful and provident benevolence lying idle on his shelves, we suggest the library at our Central Office as a depository where such publications will be of use to many of the most active men and women from all parts of the city.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

• APRIL MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

The following are the principal matters acted upon by the Board during April:

The Committee on Ward Associations was instructed to visit the several wards which contemplate closing their offices during the summer, and to prevent, if possible, such suspension of work in this important season.

Mr. Horace Howard Furness resigned his office as Treasurer of the Society, in consequence of his proposed absence in Europe, and Mr. Henry C. Lea was elected to fill his place and has kindly consented to serve.

The matter of more vigorous work in suppressing street beggars and discovering the impostors on our ward offices, was referred to a special committee, of which Mr. Philip C. Garrett is chairman. The subjects of more thorough co-operation with the police and of the applicability of the present tramp law, were also delegated to the same committee.

Grants to the amount of \$100 were made to the Second Ward Board to aid it in its work.

Messrs. Wm. L. Rehn, Joseph S. Lewis, Rev. J. A. Harris, D. D., and Joseph Ashbrook were elected Honorary Members.

Blanks for carrying out more effective co-operation between the Ward Associations and the local charities were ordered to be printed and supplied to the former. It was also

Resolved, That whenever any two wards combine in having a joint office under a common Superintendent, it is the judgment of this Board that this union should not extend so far as to unite the Ward Boards, or to create any responsibility of one Association for the engagements of the other. See By-laws of the PHILA. SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, Article VII, entitled "Ward Associations," and also, By-Laws of each of the WARD ASSOCIATIONS, No. III.

ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, May 3, 1880.

The Assembly held its regular monthly meeting at the usual place this evening, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding.

The Secretary, Mr. Williams, read the minutes of the April meeting, and the Chair announced the completion of the membership of the following Committees, viz.:

On Employment—Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D., Adam A. Catanach, Nelson F. Evans, Geo. W. Hancock, Mark Balderston, Mrs. J. C. Biddle, Mrs. W. Stilwell, Miss Sarah Newlin, Miss Fanny Clark, Mrs. J. P. Mumford, Joseph Ashbrook, Rev. J. A. Harris, D. D., J. P. Brinton and Theodore Starr.

On Medical Charities—Dr. W. V. Keating, Dr. Francis W. Lewis, Dr. W. S. Forbes, Dr. J. K. Lee, Dr. Samuel D. Gross, Dr. D. H. Agnew, Dr. Benj. Lee, Dr. Hannah T. Croasdale, Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, Henry C. Lea, Dr. W. G. Porter, Dr. A. C. Deakney, Miss H. S. Biddle.

Miss Anna Hallowell, of the Committee on the Education and Care of Children, submitted the report of that Committee. They have held regular and frequent meetings since their appointment, March 11th. The importance of the subject oppresses them, inasmuch as on the wisdom shown in the care and education of children mainly depends the solution of the problem before the Society—the prevention of pauperism. The twenty-six institutions for children in this city, including Girard College and excluding the Almshouse, have capacity for 3,000 children. If, as per last census, there are 20,000 neglected and destitute children in Philadelphia, we have 17,000 unprovided for. To elicit the best reformatory, protective and educational methods needed for these is the primary study of

several sub-committees. One of the latter is considering the importance of the instruction of girls in sewing, either as a charitable measure, or as industrial education to be adopted by the public schools. The need of such education is admitted, as it is broadly recognized that the public schools fail to prepare their pupils for self-support. Those in our prisons who have received only book instruction vastly exceed those who have learned a handicraft. There is great value to both boys and girls in the manual element in education, even for cultivating mental powers; and no acquirement is of such general use among women, or will better develop a woman's resources, or is so connected with her needs, her nature and her character as sewing.

Day nurseries and kindergartens are also under consideration. As among our applicants, the mother must bear her share in the family support, and as often the father is idle and intemperate, we must answer their appeals for aid in the way least harmful and most likely to elevate and educate. The day nursery, with a school combined, makes such a provision. It is objected that it induces parents to neglect their children and breaks up family life by encouraging the absence of the mother from home. Jules Simon classifies methods to prevent pauperism thus: "The curative, completely superseding the family, and the preventive, which only supplement insufficient resources and encourage honest effort. The former he sub-divides into the necessary, because we dare not abandon the orphan and aged, and the dangerous, because they discourage filial and parental duty; and among the latter methods he places the crèche. But every good may be abused, and our efforts must be guided by wisdom and experience. Thus, although the man should be the bread-winner, misfortune often shifts the burden on the mother. To care for her children, and at the same time to meet the need of money getting, she must have outside help or fail. The day-nursery is merely a guardian for the hours of the day, and under proper limitations yields only benefit. The farther danger to health can be met by small nurseries and proper attention to sanitary matters. But three such nurseries now exist here, with capacity for less than 125, and another is nearly launched by some of our own Visitors; but the number is quite inadequate, and in but one are colored children admitted. The needs of the latter are strongly urged.

The teaching of the kindergarten added to the day-nursery gives the most satisfactory results, laying the foundation of industrial and intellectual development and securing the best physical care, affording together the best corrective of incipient pauperism. The hands are specially trained, the imagination properly exercised, language and thought stimulated and the heart made considerate of others: thus head, heart and hand are prepared for usefulness.

The Committee are also considering the subject of children in the Almshouse. In the Twenty-second Ward a temporary home is provided for all the children of Germantown, who would otherwise be in the Poorhouse, and thence they are taken to be placed out in families. (This home is described in the REGISTER for January, page 6.)

The report closed with suggesting the opening of a Bureau where information respecting children may be centralized for the use of Superintendents and Visitors, and lists of vacancies and other data obtained for the speedy and correct disposition of children who come under their care.

Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph. D., said that Germany has had child-saving at heart more than any other nation, and her study therein forms an interesting chapter in human history. Dr. Wichern in his *Rauhe Haus* at Alton has introduced a most excellent plan. Instead of crowding children into large institutions, he divides them into families of twelve to fifteen, in separate cottages, with a house-mother over each to cultivate personal relations with every one, and as far as possible to replace parents. His success has been wonderful. One of Wichern's graduates is now over a similar group of homes near New York city. The Presbyterian Orphanage just starting here has, after careful study, adopted the same principle, being the first attempt in this vicinity, and it deserves our encouragement.

The Bureau proposed by the report of the committee might include investigations as to the methods employed in other countries to wisely care for destitute children.

The subject of the Bureau was then referred to the Board of Directors to take such action as may seem advisable.

The topic of "*The Co-operation of Charitable Societies*" was then considered, the discussion being opened by Rev. Dr. D. O. Kellogg, who said: The truth that grows upon us under the continual pressure of our work is that charity, as the law of love, is not an amiable impulse, but a system. Law is the formula of science. Charity is the science of social therapeutics. There can never be a true art of charity until its science is clear. Otherwise charity is quackery. The true impulse of love cannot rest until it has found the science. We do not find the law of charity revealed, but we must formulate our observations, and thereupon frame our methods. But this we cannot do alone. All scientific investigators are a community the world over. No man can become a proficient student who works alone. Suppose an astronomer should attempt to get on outside the republic of astronomers, and despising its past, the labors of Newton, Kepler, Laplace and Herschell, to frame his own instruments, make his own charts and deduce his own laws. How feeble and unproductive his efforts would be. Charity is not a philosophy, but a science; its art is an applied science, not a revelation. So it must be studied inductively, and its methods be drawn from the widest experience.

There might seem to be a danger of thus losing sight of the individual in general laws and machine processes. But inductive science rests on accurate and painstaking detail. Philanthropists, without meaning it, no doubt, mar and hinder their own work when they keep their methods and results out of sight. In each case of a man or woman or child whom we have taught to climb to a higher plane, and seen reach it, there is hope for thousands in like conditions, and we must not quench the light of it. Instead of a poor sectarianism of charitable effort, where petty societies

work unsympathetically in the dark, neither applying right principles nor correcting mistakes, let us have a *community* of philanthropists; a community studying and obeying the law of love—what grandeur in the thought! That were the kingdom of God.

Social evils are whatever things work against the common welfare and the social unity of which the individual is a part. Vice is a dissolvent of social bonds. Its issue is outlawry. Poverty is weakness, by which one falls out of place in the race. It is unsocial, too.

The remedy is to replace the weak and depressed in society with power to hold a respectable position there. There are two elements in this remedy. For those incapable of self-control or hardened against moral influences, repression. For both these and the others, educational influences, touching their consciences with all proper appeals to self-respect and love of approbation; kindling their hearts by sympathy and neighborliness; quickening their intellects by examples of courage, self-reliance and wit (in the old English sense of it); instructing their hands to industrial skill; these to be applied by contact, by association, for society is the most effective of all schools. We underrate the effects of bringing men into contact with noble natures and high standards of motive and character. There is a divine power in it.

This remedial policy requires the concurrence of the community. There can be no repression without concert of action. The moral resources of society are frittered away when not harmonized and governed by enlightened views. At the time of the riots in Pittsburg, bad characters crowded in from all directions, like vultures or wild beasts, baited by the impunity they would have in letting loose their passions. So the *anarchy of charity* creates disorder and facilitates evil. The energies of society, dispersed and antagonistic, or paralyzed by discord and suspicion, are of little avail; but a mutual understanding and a united intelligence would hold evil in check and begin at least to work its effectual cure.

Dr. Kellogg referred to Elberfeld, in Rhenish Prussia, London, Buffalo, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, to illustrate the saving of public funds and private gifts, through the organization and co-operation of charitable agencies. A vast economy beyond these debits and credits results from stopping the creation of dependents.

For our own Society, what is the meaning of co-operation? It is higher organization; first, through harmony of existing institutions; second, and especially through enlisting individuals in favor of some systematic charity conducted in a painstaking and brotherly way. It would be unhistorical, revolutionary and impracticable to try to organize benevolence without the aid of existing societies. Co-operation is to be accomplished, then, by persistently holding the idea in mind, by conciliatory patience towards those that oppose themselves, by accepting the smallest measures of concert, by not creating new agencies to rival or displace old ones, by directing Superintendents to co-operate wherever they can, and by helping other Societies on every opportunity.

There is a tremendous power in persistence. We should not be too ceremonious in our relation to other societies, or adopt retaliatory measures towards those who are slow to enter into our plans, but treat them as subjects of conversion, showing untiring tact and wisdom and patience. One of the most marked instances of a cheerful, prompt co-operation with us has been that of the Medical Charities. But whatever the difficulties in the way of co-operation, we are solemnly bound to it by the fundamental law of our Society, by the economic interests of the city, by the claims of the weak and the vicious, by the very impulse of charity which unites us in our work, and by the law of love, which is religion in its purest obligation and form.

Mr. J. H. Atwood, of the Union Benevolent Association, said that although all the old Societies were not ready to adopt our views each of our Associations could do much in their own sphere towards working with local charities, and thus enforce our principles without magnifying ourselves. What has been accomplished with a few Soup-Societies and the Medical Charities, well illustrates the possibilities. It is not dollars and cents given away, which may be spent in vice and crime, but the real work done in raising the poor to a higher and better life that will help us to concert of action and general confidence.

In answer to an inquiry, Dr. Kellogg farther stated the actual co-operation secured with Medical Charities, Soup-Societies, the Grandom Trust, and with the Guardian of the Twenty-seventh Ward in 1879, from whom nearly all the needed temporary relief for the year was obtained. The chief obstacle to co-operation has been with our own Ward Associations, which have not appreciated its vital importance, and have not enforced it upon their Superintendents.

The promise of co-operation has been largely secured from the various police stations, whose officers have shown uniform readiness to aid in every practicable way; and the Superintendents have been often urged to avail themselves of this help to ascertain the character of their applicants; but the resource has been very slightly employed. When each Ward Association outgrows its local pride and fostering of itself and sees the wide relations of its work, the path to co-operation will sensibly widen.

Dr. H. T. Child felt that each Association must do its work well be one other societies will co-operate. The remedy is with us, and where faithful work is done in investigating and in making the poor independent, jealousy is dissipated and success is assured. Not large professions but earnest work is the need. The Superintendents must be better guided and directed by their Boards to pursue this co-operation.

Mr. Wm. Y. Colladay, of the Twentieth Ward, found the Twentieth Ward Soup Society the chief hindrance in the way of wise charity. Every inducement to co-operate has been held out to it, but it prefers to encourage idleness by feeding those who will not work.

Mr. Samuel Huston, on the other hand, gave the experience of the oldest Soup Society of the city, which by co-operation with us had reduced its list of dependent families from 600 to less than 200, and their President had

lately said that he was so well convinced of the value of our methods that he was ready to turn over their whole property and investments to the Charity Organization, if the latter would only accept it.

Judge Peirce desired to say, in reference to the richer Wards coming to the aid of the poorer ones, that there was no Ward in the city unable to provide for its own poor. If it would strictly practice co-operation, any Ward could do its work at a cost easily obtained within itself. As regards the Soup Societies, he thought that those refusing to co-operate had political ends to promote, insisting upon feeding idlers who belong to their political wing. This view was strengthened by a case recently before the Courts, where two parties were struggling for control of a certain soup society for such base purposes. If all soup charities would require applicants to present a ticket of worthiness from the Ward Associations, much economy and benefit would result. Another department of co-operation desirable to secure is that of the street car companies, in order to keep the cars free from beggars, many of whom are thieves.

Prof. Thompson replied that while if the field were clear no Ward was too poor to provide for its own by effective co-operation, unfortunately great prejudice had been excited against our aims by certain newspapers, and it must be lived down. At present some Wards cannot secure the funds needed to do their work. The Soup Societies may be classed as converted and unconverted. Some are officered by some of the best men in the city, and use women as investigators who do very kind, but very superficial work; and such need a better system of scrutiny. Now their object is to show a long list of recipients; they supply persons who do not need help. Much of their soup goes to the liquor shops for free lunches. They offer to co-operate to the extent of feeding our beneficiaries, but refuse to abide by our investigation. The 30th Ward has carried co-operation as far as possible, and sometimes is cordially met, as in the case of the Episcopal City Mission, whose courtesy is reciprocated by giving a portion of the Ward building for the use of a branch sick diet kitchen. The Board of that Ward sent a circular to every charity society operating therein asking co-operation. It got but one letter in response, very courteous, but saying in effect, you are young and we are old and wise. We do not propose to put ourselves in your hands. We asked for the simplest co-working, with the benefit all on their side, and they flatly refused. We must not expect to carry out all our aims at once, but to get the ideas of wise charity diffused. He illustrated the dangers of unwise giving by the example of Bruges, in Belgium, which by the magnitude of its endowed charities had become a city of paupers, which steadily declined in population and influence. We certainly have good cause of complaint against the old societies who refuse our proffered co-operation.

Mr. Moore Dupuy, of the New York Children's Aid Society, being introduced, expressed his pleasure in listening to the discussion, and described the co-operation between his own Society and the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor; the Visitors of the former finding much poverty, which they refer to the latter for relief. Also, much help is given to the sick poor by the same cordial interchange through the Children's Summer Home, at Bath, L. I. The principal New York Societies are ready for co-operation as soon as they find the best way, which they are now earnestly seeking. All large cities have many small societies that care only to elevate themselves. The remedy is in thorough system and co-operation. Touching briefly the care of children he strongly urged the opening of Kitchen gardens in the poor neighborhoods, where a few hours instruction is given weekly in every department of house work, making and airing beds, sweeping, setting and clearing tables, all exercises set to attractive music, and stimulated to perfection by emulation. The aim is to educate them to be good house servants. All cannot be seamstresses or cooks, but there is a large demand for good servants, to whom excellent homes and wages are always available.

After the conclusion of Mr. Dupuy's remarks the Assembly adjourned.

THE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

The Visitors held their usual monthly meeting for April on the 12th ult., Mrs. Gillingham in the chair. Twelve Wards presented their reports. In eleven Wards the number of cases aided on recommendation of the visitors was 966 as against 1,605 during the preceing month. This decrease of 639 was uniformly accounted for by the approach of warm weather, with its resumption of general employment. One report significantly says that the poor "are used to depending on themselves after the winter months." Another observes "those requiring aid at present are, with few exception, the aged, the sick and the crippled or infirm." Seven children have been placed in homes of various kinds; five families have been brought to independent circumstances, 108 women have received the aid of temporary employment at sewing from two Wards, and six cases have been provided for in hospital and almshouse, and by the German Society. Of the noticeable forms of relief these may be mentioned: a family had its clothing released from pawn, a widow with five children was aided by a loan to extend her business, an insane woman committed to the care of two Physicians and a Visitor; a family helped all last winter being refused farther assistance, the man obtained employment, and then boasted that he would not let his wife go out to work. The Thirteenth Ward reports the establishment of a fund to be loaned in small sums, and the Seventh Ward learns of 48 children in the families of its beneficiaries who do not attend school, and also urges that a Day Nursery for colored children should be started at once.

Mrs. E. S. Turner reported the revival of the Country Week, which effected so much good among the children of the poor last summer, and desired the Conference to adopt it; but after consideration it was decided that the work could be more legitimately and advantageously done by a separate organization, and steps were taken to form such a body by those Visitors who could give the necessary time and labor to it.

A paper was then read by Miss Anna Hallowell on Day Nurseries and Kindergartens, the substance of which is embraced in a report read by the same lady before the Assembly of the 3d inst., to which the reader is referred.

Mrs. Dr. Small called attention to the Sanitarium on Windmill Island, in charge of prominent physicians and a board of women, as a valuable charity, available for all the wards.

Mrs. Cohen read a Circular Report from Miss Pendleton of the 8th Ward, Chairman of the Working-Women's Co-operative Association, inviting the co-operation of the other Wards in their plan and methods.

Mrs. Lucas read a paper on "Silk Culture" as a means of employment for women and children who cannot leave their homes. The object of the Association now forming is to teach the cultivation of silk in this country. Mrs. L. gave the history of the culture of silk from the earliest ages, showing it was and has been always a woman's work, that it was profitable financially to individuals and nations. Dr. S. Chamberlaine, who has the school in charge, was present to answer inquiries. Upon the inquiry whether skilled labor was required, it was replied that the object of the school was to teach that skill.

Miss Hallowell deprecated employing children, who might thus be taken from school and subjected to hardships.

Dr. Chamberlaine answered to this objection, that the industry was meant for home work in the country, and would not be on the plan of factory work.

The Conference then adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

National Conference of Charities and Correction.—An event in which all friends of Organized Charity will be, and all others ought to be heartily and profoundly interested, is the annual meeting of this body, to occur at Cleveland, O., commencing Tuesday evening, June 29th, and continuing Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Besides prominent members of all the State Boards of Charities, Governors and delegates from several States and from numerous institutions, it is expected that the Dominion of Canada will be fully represented. The president says: "One-half of the current expenditures and taxation for State purposes, in most of the States, are for the support of charitable, reformatory and penal institutions, and it is the effort of the utmost importance that their management should aggregate all the experience and wisdom of the nation." Rev. O. C. McCulloch, of the Charity Organization Society of Indianapolis, will read a paper on "Charity Organization in Cities," and there will be important discussions on the Causes and Prevention of Pauperism. It is desirable that Philadelphia shall be largely represented.

Home for Incurables.—The corner-stone of the new edifice for the Philadelphia Home for Incurables, at 48th street and Woodland Avenue, was laid April 14th with appropriate ceremonies, in the presence of a large gathering of friends. Mayor Stokely presided, the boys of the Educational Home under Miss McHenry performed escort duty and supplied music, speeches were made by Judge Peerce, Rev. Dr. G. D. Boardman, and Dr. W. W. Keen; and the handsomely cut corner-stone was squared and adjusted to its place, and its cavity filled with the usual documents, by Mrs. S. B. Stitt, Mrs. H. C. Townsend, Mrs. E. R. Fell and other officers of the institution in a graceful and workmanlike manner. The site is an admirable one, upon the highest land on the avenue, securing the purest breezes and the most extended views. The building will be 72 feet front by 44 deep, 2 stories and French roof, and arranged for future enlargement by separate wings. Nearly money enough is in hand to complete the building, but the managers need and should have large endowments for current expenses, and for extending their capacity. Separate wards are needed for the Consumptive, the Cancerous, and the Epileptic, and Dr. Keen urgently appealed to the warm-hearted citizens to equip and furnish this admirable Home, in a degree somewhat adequate to the need, the existence of which every physician will verify. Certainly no Charity appeals more touchingly and forcibly to the liberality and sympathy of the public, than that which cares for the hopelessly incurable.

The Charity Organization Society of Gloucester has just issued its Annual Report, from which we extract the following:

The language of the Committee on the subject of thrift is very decided and to the point. They point out that one general principle, which it may be well to bring into distinct prominence, is that it is good for the poor that they should meet all the ordinary contingencies of life, relying not upon public or private charity, but upon their own industry and thrift, and upon the powers of self help that are to be developed by individual and collective effort; ample room will still be left for the exercise of an abundant charity in dealing with exceptional misfortune. But it is a hurtful misuse of money to spend it in meeting emergencies which the laboring classes should themselves, if possible, have anticipated and provided for. The working man does not require to be told that temporary sickness is likely now and then to visit his household, that times of slackness will occasionally come, that if he marries early and has a large family his resources will be taxed to the uttermost, that if he lives long enough old age will render him more or less incapable of toil; all these are the ordinary contingencies of life, and if the laborer is taught that, as they arise, they will be met by State relief or private charity, he will assuredly make no effort to meet them himself; a spirit of dependence, fatal to all progress, will be engendered in him; he will not concern himself with the cause of his distress, or consider at all how the condition of his class may be improved.

The London Society.—We have just received the last Annual Report of the London Charity Organization Society and find that they have 38 District Committees (equivalent to our Ward Associations), and that there are 88 kindred Societies in the United Kingdom in affiliation with it. We glean a few extracts from its Report:

"It is obvious that it is wiser and kinder to learn the causes of distress in each individual case, and then to apply the most suitable remedies that contrivance can suggest and co-operation among the charitable procure, than to give a casual dole or a letter of recommendation without forethought or hope of producing lasting good. The justice, too, is apparent of taking each case on its merits, and of preventing charity becoming an instrument to promote idleness, thriftlessness, neglect of natural obligations, habitual dependence on others, and impotence. This, it may be said, is the common sense of Charity. * * * * *

"This Society undertakes this organization of Charity, not on any artificial scheme, but in reference to the wants and circumstances of thousands of individuals. Two evils will inevitably arise from these methods, and, so long as the Society is but partially developed, they will be with difficulty combated. There will be a tendency to give relief instead of organizing it, and thus instead of drawing on the common fund of the charitable, which is practically infinite, to draw upon the resources of the Committee, which cannot suffer for more than temporary relief. Another temptation will be to evade the duty of obtaining suitable relief, owing to the time and labor which it involves, the obstacles in the way of utilizing charities and charitable endowments, and the lack of sufficient honorary workers (that is, Visitors). It is evident, that if the District Committees, as one or two of them now do, were to determine to use entirely or almost entirely for organization the funds placed at their disposal for general purposes, and were, at the same time, firmly resolved that, at no matter what expenditure of time and energy, the required relief should be procured for each case, a large part of the Society's income would be set free for the perfecting of its organization and for the establishment of Committees in smaller areas; the work of the Society would be more closely knit to the local and personal wants of the district and the greatest possible inducement would be held out to charitable and charitable persons to act in concert, and to give liberally and appropriately. For the general adoption, however, of this programme by the Society a larger measure of public confidence must be acquired—the confidence of almsgivers and of the great mass of the people—not by lowering the Society's standard, but by a courageous adhesion to its principles, the justice of which, when made good by thoroughly efficient work, will be apparent. This, the general recognition of the evils of out-relief and of the distinction between cases suitable for the Poor Law and those suitable for Charity, and a widespread belief in the necessity of a competent, responsible, and yet non-official administration of charity, are conditions precedent to any charity organization worthy of the name."

Orphan Society of Philadelphia.—We are advised that this Society, at their admirably conducted Home, 64th St. and Landsdowne Ave., has room for 20 more children. Fatherless girls under 8 years and boys under 6, free from mental and bodily infirmity, are admitted, provided they are legally relinquished to the Society. See page 141 of our MANUAL. The Chairman of the Admitting Committee is Miss Maria Tilgham, 1114 Girard Street.

HINTS.

Cast-off Clothing.—At this season of general change of garments it may not be amiss to suggest to our readers that much might be done in providing for the needs of the worthy poor during next winter, and in relieving housekeepers of the work of packing away woolen goods of doubtful utility, if one and all would send such articles of clothing as they can spare to the office of their Ward Association, where it can be sorted, mended by poor women needing the work, and prepared for distribution when the warm weather shall have passed.

There are no idle men or women who could not improve their own homes if disposed and the improvement would doubtless initiate moral reforms.

Those who have never given any earnest thought to the subject can scarcely appreciate the lasting good that might be accomplished if every woman of education and household experience would devote a small part of her spare time (it is all we ask) to the cultivation of the friendship of one poor family—to the bridging of the chasm between rich and poor. What is asked of the Visitor is to treat the poor in all of her intercourse with the same delicacy of feeling and kind consideration which she would wish to have shown to herself.

Be on your guard against encouraging idleness, improvidence, or grosser misconduct, directly or indirectly. Injudicious almsgiving to the family of a drunkard, dissolute, idle, or shiftless person will invariably do more harm than good.

Endeavor in so far as lies in your power to foster the "pride of home," by helping to make the dwelling bright and cheerful, with the gift of such articles as cannot possibly pauperize, but on the contrary will elevate and refine the tastes.

Do not expect gratitude in every case from those whom you have benefited, and where it is not shown or expressed, do not conclude that it is not felt.—Rev. S. H. Gurteen's Hints to Visitors.

NOTES.

Fourteenth Ward.—We learn that the Association in this ward has closed its office at 128 Ridge avenue, and dispensed with its Superintendent, but hope the suspension is only temporary. Meanwhile the Committee on Decision of Relief will, doubtless, give the requisite attention to such matters as may be brought to its notice. It comprises these names: William Hawkins, 1119 Green street; David Klein, 812 North Eleventh street; L. M. Johnson, 844 North Eleventh street.

What the Press says of us.—The Society for Organizing Charity is entering upon its second year with a more mature feeling. It will direct its "relief" less to the stomach and more to the top part of the man this year.—Philadelphia Correspondence Boston Christian Register.

On a recent Sunday evening, a request for a collection in a certain church was sent up by friends for the benefit of one of our Ward Associations, with the remark that it was submitted to the discretion of pastor and trustees. The pastor read the notice and added: "This pulpit is very discreet; it is therefore ordered that the collection be now taken up and every cent of it go to this very worthy object."

A soldier in the late war (a German, and printer by trade,) is paralysed in the left arm from a wound. His pension is too small to support him and his sickly wife and three young children. Any one knowing a suitable situation for such an one will do a great favor by sending word to W. D. Thomas, Superintendent 30th Ward Association 2035 Christian Street.

Twenty-second Ward.—The Office Hours in this Ward will be from 4 to 6, P.M., and so continue during the summer months.

* * * * *The aim of this Society is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the Poor. Annual Memberships \$5; Life Memberships \$500. Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, or to the Gen'l Secretary.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 15, 1880.

[No. 8

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY.

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
- By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Henry C. Lea, Esq., No. 426 Walnut street, or to the Central Office, No. 1429 Market Street.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday, July 12, 8 P. M. Board of Directors.

The Assembly Meetings are suspended during July and August.

The Women's General Conferences are suspended until October.

EDITORIAL.

WE beg to call earnest attention particularly to the part of Mrs. Lesley's report to the Assembly, from the Committee on Visitation and Women's Work, concerning a closer co-operation and exchange of views between the men's and women's branches of our work. The subject is of vital and urgent importance to our Society. No bird can fly that does not beat both its wings in unison.

EMPLOYMENT.—Since the closing of our Central Employment Bureau we have completed arrangements with existing Employment Agencies of established character and opportunities, by which we can assist in procuring employment for all needing it where the Ward Superintendents cannot secure it for them. Such persons sent to us by the Ward Associations, bringing written information from the Superintendent, based on positive investigations into the merits of applicants, will be referred by us to the Employment Agencies under an arrangement by which no fee is required in advance, but a moderate one will be asked from wages earned in the new position which may be obtained through their aid.

IS IT WORTH THE MONEY?

The poor, deserving and undeserving, are in our midst. What shall be done with or for them? A child, the embodiment of distress, trembling from hunger and cold, or in the guise of such conditions, confronts a citizen on the street or in his place of business, and asks for money to buy food, or at his residence begs food and clothing. If the person applied to knew the truth of the matter, he would instantly extend relief to the deserving and summarily dismiss the impostor. But he does not and cannot know the truth. Hitherto two courses were open—to give indiscriminately to the relief of biting want, and to the encouragement of brazen fraud—or to withhold from all at the risk of refusing relief where it was sorely needed.

Assuming that there is in the community a disposition to make ample provision for all who are justly entitled to receive help, the Society for Organizing Charity proposes to establish a system by the aid of which all persons in want can make their wants known to persons or societies who will help them to provide such things as they need, and all persons who are disposed to give food, clothing, work, instruction, money or other assistance to those who are in need, may be directed to worthy cases upon whom to bestow their Charity.

It has been demonstrated that this system of investigation and record may be successfully carried out in a ward in such manner as to ensure the relieving of worthy cases, and the detection and exposure of cases of attempted imposture, at a cost of about five hundred dollars a year. Is it worth what it costs?

If the experience of one ward, in which, during two winters the work has been successfully performed, may be taken as an average, then to successfully apply the system in the city would cost \$15,500. City Councils regarded the work sufficiently well done to justify the withholding of the annual appropriation of about \$50,000 for out-door relief. Who will say the judgment of Councils is not justified by the results?

If every church that undertakes to provide for the poor in its membership, if every Society having for its object the care of the poor or unfortunate, if every citizen who is disposed to give money, old clothing, broken food or other things to persons and families who would be really benefited by such gifts, would employ the facilities gratuitously afforded by the local Associations of the Society for Organizing Charity, distress would be relieved, imposture would be detected, and mendicancy would be suppressed greatly to the advantage of the community.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

MAY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

The resolution of the Assembly touching the establishment of a Bureau for centralizing information regarding children and children's homes, was referred to the Committee on Co-operation, who, with the Assembly Committee on Education, etc., have arranged for a conference of all persons interested in the management of societies for the care of children, to be held at the Lecture Hall over the Central Office, on June 17th, to deliberate upon the subject. Much practical good is hoped for by thus bringing to a focus the united wisdom and sympathy of the city in this department of charitable work.

Communications were received from the Eighth and Ninth Ward Directors, asking consideration of the present Tramp Law, and its defects and their remedies. This subject is under consideration by a Special Committee of the Board.

An invitation to take part in the National Conference of Charities and Correction in Cleveland, June 29th, was received and accepted, and the following are expected to represent the Society: Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, Joshua L. Baily and P. C. Garrett, Esqs., Judge W. S. Peirce and Mrs. R. Blankenburg. It is hoped others will also be able to go who have not yet accepted the duty.

The Employment Committee announced satisfactory arrangements with

existing Employment Agencies for co-operating with us, and blanks were prepared for the purpose.

Hon. Richard Vaux, Edward Townsend, Esq., and Mrs. Daniel Haddock, Jr., were elected Honorary Members of the Society.

ASSEMBLY.

The ASSEMBLY held its regular monthly meeting on the 7th instant, at the usual hour and place, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read by the Secretary, Mr. Williams, the *Committee on Visitation and Women's Work* reported through the Chairman, Mrs. S. I. Lesley, to the following effect:

A sub committee, consisting of the Chairman, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. J. C. Biddle and Miss Pen'leton, has made visits to the several wards on the plan named in their previous report (see REGISTER for April, page 8), and found it a strong link in binding the Society together. Such visits are well received and helpful to both Visitors and visited, and aid in the education of all in the higher aims and objects of the Society. These aims, so well illustrated in the lives of Octavia Hill and Edward Denison, and which are the basis of all Organized Charity, are slowly permeating the community; but until they become household words everywhere, we are liable to defeat in our best work for the poor by the indiscriminate alms-giver next door, or the Dole Society around the corner. But the idea is surely growing, and even opposing societies and the persons who are not with us adopt our watchwords and do their work the better for the influence the idea creates. In every ward visited we found among the Visitors steadfast, persistent workers and wise thinkers and advisers. Day Nurseries and Kindergartens are being instituted where they are required. This organized effort, which brings all the testimony and experience and judgment of many minds to bear upon every plan, alone ensures its not being undertaken inconsiderately.

The chief necessity discovered by the Committee is for more complete co-operation between the men and women. In the wards where there are full conferences of both sexes to *consider cases*, we found the nearest approach to our ideal work; and we look with a sure hope to see this co-operation become universal. We have to take people as we find them, work against long established ideas, and realize that our friction is not due to our modes, but to the personal units out of which all organizations are composed. But the need of this co-operation is more and more apparent. It is a hard thing when a good man says to us: "This is woman's work and will finally fall into their hands." God forbid! for that would sound the knell of *Organized Charity*. If ever a holy work needed the joint wisdom of men and women in all its branches, ours does. Small committees, discussing executive business alone, can never bring to the poor the good that comes from full conferences of men and women to *consider cases*. Doubtless the women must do the greater part of the visiting; but such work, if well done, must absorb their minds and often discourage their hearts. How helpful, then, to lay their cases before a body of friends, fresh and unwearied in their study of them, who, looking from various points of sympathy, can throw more light and give more encouragement than can be estimated in words. And unless men take part in the personal consideration of cases, contributing their better business habits and their caution, and receiving from the women the results of their actual contact with the poor, we might as well decide how relief should be administered in China or Siam. Many other questions also besides mere relief, affecting vitally our poor friends, need the joint wisdom of men and women; as in the case of intemperate husbands or wayward sons, one word from a strong man adds untold weight to the Visitor's influence. Go to the Sixth Ward and see how men and women sit in conference over cases, intelligently disposing of case after case after getting light upon it from all sides; and such united deliberation is practicable everywhere. It is not bad people who circumvent the work by preventing such co-operation, but good and noble persons of strong individual temperaments, unaccustomed to united methods. Working thus in *Organized Charity* educates us in another kind of Charity also—that which "thinketh no evil, suffereth long and is kind." Let us adopt these conferences in every ward, large enough for variety of thought, and that generous leaven of common sense and friendliness that will deaden all personal antagonisms.

In two wards the offices were closed and the Superintendents dismissed without any notice to the women's branch. In some other wards the Visitors say "we never meet the Directors—we scarcely know them by sight; and we cannot feel that they are at all interested in the work, or see how they can form correct judgments as to relief, or loans, or permanent remedies without closer relation to the cases and more personal interest in them. We are satisfied that men who do not feel individual responsibility for such conferences, and women so indifferent to them that they are not glad to arrange their hours to suit the business hours of the men, and to prepare concise and accurate reports of their cases for deliberation, have failed to take in one of the leading principles of the Society. Can they consider seriously how.

"Evil is wrought by want of thought,
As well as by want of heart?"

The report closed with a resolution recommending to the Ward Boards the earnest consideration of greater co-operation of the men and women workers, and the imitation of the simple and effective methods of the Sixth Ward. This resolution was, on motion of Mr. S. Huston, referred to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Geo. K. Cross, Chairman of the Committee on "*Hygiene and Sanitary Measures, the Dwellings of the Poor, and the Construction of Buildings*," reported that their labors embraced not so much personal hygiene as that of a more general character, bearing upon the masses of the poor. The first essential condition is pure air and plenty of it, in schools, facto-

ries and the houses of the poor. Recent legislation in New York limits the space to be occupied by any tenement house to sixty-five per cent. of the lot it occupies, and requires all bedrooms to have direct air and light from outside. The schools of this city are now being investigated by the Board of Health to ascertain if they are properly ventilated. Disease and death do result from crowding human beings into places not well supplied with pure air, as the Calcutta Black Hole so terribly illustrated, and there should be a fixed legal standard of space for each individual to live and labor in. This matter needs careful and judicious legislation. In many localities the air becomes vitiated by bad drainage, defective sewers and accumulations of decaying substances. These subjects of municipal care need better oversight. Heavy rains tend to cleanse the sewers and improve the public health; and steam fire engines might throw powerful streams to accomplish the same purpose. Some means should also be devised to give smooth linings to sewers that would not obstruct the flow.

Our city is one of the healthiest large cities, doubtless traceable to the fact that there are more small houses than in any other city, which our Building Associations enable the poor to possess, thus avoiding a nuisance usual in all large cities. Some over-crowded buildings are found in our city, where the debased and criminal classes herd, and these should be prohibited by legal measures, as centres of disease and crime.

Public baths are highly important, and their use should be freely urged. Those furnished by some of the Soup houses might be provided by all. The public baths supplied by the city are an encouraging step in the right direction. The committee also advocate model Coffee Taverns in place of the numerous drinking saloons which curse our city.

It is hoped that these brief suggestions will awaken a deeper interest and a keener sense of obligation to further the well-being of the poor. The Committee offered the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, That it is a portion of the duty of this Society, through the Ward Associations, to use all reasonable efforts to promote personal and general hygiene, the want of which is a fruitful cause of crime and poverty.

Resolved, That a systematic plan should be established to bring into use all the means at command for the prompt removal of all nuisances which are detrimental to health.

These resolutions were referred to the Board of Directors.

Rev. Dr. Wayland had been led to believe that the Board of Health lacked the power to remedy such evils promptly, and instanced where the leakage of a sewer was reported by a family in which one of the children died of diphtheria, and no remedy was offered by the Board.

Mrs. E. S. Turner then presented the "*Children's Week and the Care of Children in the Summer*," as a Charity that comes in when the winter relief work is over; comes in with dog-days, the burning sun and reeking surface drainage; comes for children whose only fields are mud between the cobble stones, and their only brooks the gutters; comes for mothers whose babes languish, and for whom the doctor prescribes change of air, which this Charity can supply. Six hundred and seventy-eight children and mothers last summer received such cheer among the fields and streams and woods of the adjoining counties; and the need now is for free invitations for those who need to go this summer. Such can readily be secured by a little personal service from those interested. The children are found to cause but little trouble, are dispatched and received back by members of the Society; and being "picked" children, recommended by teachers and Visitors, are not improper companions for the family of their hosts. Being on good behavior, they are generally much better behaved than at home. All the money goes for fares and board for such as are not invited, no expense being caused for clerical services. Some adults, mothers or tired seamstresses, pay half or whole board, to feel independent. Some of the children have had repeated invitations, and some have thus found permanent homes. Of the 678 sent out last summer, 223 were invited and 455 boarded, 628 were children and 50 adults. Total cost, \$1,354.90, or about \$2 a head for a visit averaging ten days. The "street arabs" and diseased children we must provide for otherwise.

Dr. Cadwalader recommended the Sanitarium on Windmill Island for sick children and their mothers, available in winter as well as summer.

Mrs. John Lucas reported the Tenth Ward excursions to the Park last summer as healthful and elevating, and much superior to the large excursions of hundreds of children formerly in vogue.

Mrs. Dan'l Haddock, Jr., at the request of the Chair, described the work of the Seaside Home at Cape May Point, which provides a similar resort for mothers and children, the women paying \$3 a week and children \$1.50. They also received the thirty-five children of the Presbyterian Orphanage, but when the new Orphanage is complete it will afford a summer resort for other children, and will be glad to receive some of the "picked" children of the Country Week Society.

The Chair drew attention to the account in "St. Nicholas" of the house on Staten Island where children from the slums of New York are taken, one hundred at a time, boys one week and girls the next. Our readers will do well to consult the article.

Mr. J. L. Baily commended the economy of this Charity, the price of an opera ticket sufficing to give such a delight and benefit to a child for so many days. Besides the thousand novelties that amuse and instruct the unaccustomed child, the influence reacts upon the parents and the home, and often turns the tide from the over-crowded city to the open, healthful country, and so fosters a desirable emigration.

Mr. Horace W. Pitkin, who had visited the Penitentiary weekly for years, found one boy who had been in the House of Refuge eight years, and another several years, both of whom had graduated into the Penitentiary. Inside those huge walls the boys only think of how they shall escape; while at the Reformatories at Westboro, Mass., Lancaster, Ohio, Fairfield, Ind., and Coldwater, Mich., they have and they need no stone walls.

Mrs. Lucas read an interesting paper on efforts in the Tenth Ward to cultivate hygiene by attempts to improve and beautify a crowded court. When whitewash and honeysuckles were provided, and one of the inmates employed for pay to cleanse and adorn the front, a few consented, while the others laughed at her for doing "pauper work." When the work was done and the improvement manifest, the deriders apologized to the Visitor and saw it in a new light. Anything that cultivates the appreciation of the beautiful, is a key to the reform of children and parents. The paper also strongly commended trips upon the river for invigorating sickly children, the fresh air often acting like magic upon them.

The Chair announced that the next Assembly meeting would be held on the first Monday evening in September, and the meeting adjourned.

THE WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE

For May, was held on the 10th ult., at the usual hour and place, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham presiding, and Mrs. Alfred Jones, Secretary.

Ten Wards reported, in nine of which there were 379 Visitors enrolled, or an average of 42 in each corps, the greatest number (128) being found in the Seventh Ward. The number of cases aided during the month preceding the report was 271, being 429 less than in March. This great diminution the Visitors account for as the characteristic of the advancing warm weather with its increased opportunity for employment; or, as the report of one Visitor's corps put it, the decrease is "just because the season has come around when it is not the fashion to ask." Ten permanent situations have been found for beneficiaries during the month, while partial employment by the day has been found for a number of women, and in one Ward 81 women received sewing, and in another help has been supplied to many housekeepers from a list of women willing to work at ten cents an hour. Homes have been found for four children, while two other cases are pending; the Society for Preventing Cruelty to Children having rendered valuable assistance. One of these cases was that of a girl nine years of age found intoxicated in the streets, and who was for this cause removed from the charge of her family permanently. Several interesting special cases have arisen; four persons addicted to drink having placed themselves under supervision of the Associations with a view to correct their habits; one insane woman having been restored to usefulness by medical care secured, and by relief from the pressure of family care, while two other deranged persons were placed in hospitals; a woman lying in bed with cancer, and distraught for her rent was relieved of distraint by the payment of her rent; and one old woman died whose burial was provided for by the Visitors of her Ward. One report speaks of marked improvement in cleanliness among the poor of that Ward; another of an Excursion to the Zoological Garden of twenty-five children belonging to a Ward-school of "Household Work" at the close of its term. In this school forty-five children were enrolled during the term, and their pleasure and interest in the instruction was marked by their rapid improvement. The Visitors are pressing on various provident schemes, inducing the poor to save money for the purchase of fuel in the winter, or for other purposes. The summary of these reports shows a wide range of work, and a persistent thoughtfulness and care far more valuable to the recipients of them, than grants of pecuniary aid could possibly be.

Much discussion followed the reading of the reports, touching the importance of maintaining the summer work of the Associations with vigor; and opinions were unanimous in favor of keeping open every Ward office, and continuing the rounds of the Visitors as far as possible; as the best results were proved to follow the visits made when no aid was expected, and greater confidence was felt in the friendliness of the Visitor for that reason.

Mrs. Cohen, of the Assembly Committee on Provident Habits, considered the summer the only effective time to induce the poor to save and to cultivate the thrifty and provident ways which it was the aim of that Committee to inculcate.

The General Secretary read the address of the Board of Directors to the workers in the Society urging the uninterrupted continuance of work on the ground of the good results accomplished last summer, which was cordially received and endorsed. This address has since been printed (Paper No. 36), and copies may be had for gratuitous distribution at the Central Office.

The Chair stated that in the Twentieth Ward the 600 families asking help last year had been reduced to 200, and of these not over one-tenth needed anything but moral aid. Visitors of the Ninth Ward gave reports of a similar reduction of dependent families in that Ward.

An exceptional case was brought up by representatives of the Thirtieth Ward, concerning a cripple for whom employment had been fruitlessly sought, and whose sole dependence for the support of a family of five, was a pension of \$45 a year. After consideration suggestions were made, which seemed to open the way to solution. In this connection Miss Anna Halliwell cited a remark made at a recent meeting of Superintendents that District Telegraph messenger-boys were improperly used by being sent among improper associations and kept at their duties until after midnight, imperiling both their morals and their future health. Could this abuse be remedied and the boys kept longer at school, it would leave many places open for such persons as the case under consideration.

Mrs. H. P. Baker, of the Fifteenth Ward, asked what should be done with those who through infirmity were unable to support themselves, and no co-operating charity could be found to take charge of them. In the opinion of the Chair, each Ward was bound to care for its own; and no case, however helpless or degraded, should be cast off. The Visitor in such a case should exhaust every means in her power; then summon the Corps of Visitors for advice and counsel; then resort to the Ward Directors; and finally, if necessary, to the Central Board of Directors. It

was farther suggested that no individual Visitor should bear undue burdens in such cases; the expense and the extra labor should fall upon the Associations.

After an unsuccessful attempt to adopt a day and hour for the Conference more generally convenient to the Visitors, the meeting adjourned to the second Monday in June.

MUNICIPAL RELIEF.

A Special Committee of the Society for Organizing Charity has had an interview with Mayor Stokley in reference to the suppression of vagrancy and street begging.

The Committee, consisting of Messrs. Philip C. Garrett, Henry T. Child, M. D., Chas. E. Cadwalader, M. D., Prof. R. E. Thompson, Josiah R. Sypher and Albert B. Williams waited upon the Mayor by appointment, for the purpose of considering this subject.

Mr. Garrett, the Chairman, said: "We are happy in having this interview with one who is perfectly familiar with the operations of the Charity Organization Society, and who understands the full scope of that Society, which I am sorry to say needs to be better understood, not only by the community, but by some who are engaged in it. We have an abiding faith that if its objects are fully carried out, remarkable results will be obtained. Every monthly comparison within the last year shows a great reduction of pauperism and improvement of the condition of our Charities.

"The special object of this Committee is to see what can be done to suppress street begging. One of the objects of the Association, as expressed in its original title, was the 'suppression of mendicancy.'

"In practically carrying out this, we need the co-operation of the Departments of the City Government, especially the Police Department, and the Guardians of the Poor, and the Managers of the House of Correction. Our object in this meeting is to consult you as to the way in which we can best accomplish this work.

"You were kind enough to furnish our Society in the fall of 1878 with a list of the number of street beggars in this city. I think there proved to be about 2,250, and estimating that they received on an average \$3 per day, it amounted to \$4,500 per day, or about a million and a half per year. It is rather an appalling consideration, that the pockets of our people are robbed of that amount, not for Charity, but for sheer waste; for upon investigation cases of street beggary are generally found to be impostors.

"My colleague, Mr. Sypher, has been looking up the law upon this matter, and he will speak to you on that branch of the question."

Mr. Sypher said: "It would not be proper to enter into a discussion of the provisions of the laws with which your Honor is familiar. Precisely what we seek to know is, in what way we may best co-operate with the administrative departments of the City Government, so as to bring about the most satisfactory results. You have from time to time instructed your police officers in regard to their duties under the laws of 1876, 1878 and 1879, relating to the suppression of vagrancy and tramps. Our object in calling upon you as a Committee of the Society we represent, is to ascertain what suggestions you may be able to make and what conclusions we can arrive at as to the work in charge of our several Ward Associations, and how we may in some intelligent way co-operate with you; and in view of your long and varied experience in the treatment of the classes we seek to deal with, we feel that this is a matter in which we are rather in the position of learners than instructors.

"Our desire is to devise some practical measures for the enforcement of the vagrant act, in such way as will relieve not only the public but the poor also.

"Under the act of 1876 it is the duty of Constables or Police officers, either upon information of a citizen or upon their own view, to arrest all persons found on the street or highway begging. This Committee recognizes the fact that this is only the beginning of the work. The important question is, what are we to do with them after they are arrested.

The Mayor replied: "So far as the co-operation of the police officers is concerned—and I don't want to say it in an egotistical manner—if there was provision made to detain and take care of beggars, there would not be one left on the street in twenty-four hours from this time. We can take them all up in less than that time, but our experience is that if we arrest them and send them to the Almshouse or to the House of Correction, we find them on the same spot from which we took them in twenty-four hours, because the Guardians and Managers have not the means to keep them (as they say), on account of the small appropriation made by Councils and the large number requiring relief. The great difficulty is to find some way to take care of them, to put them to work when they are able, as most of them are, or to provide for them if they are not. If I find an insane man, I may have to keep him a week before I can get him into any institution."

Prof. Thompson asked if our proper course would not be to ask Councils to make an additional appropriation for the Almshouse.

The Mayor thought not, and said: "I have no more control over that department than any one of you gentlemen. The law ought to be such that if I want anything of a Department I could demand it. But if I send a man or woman there, or to the House of Correction, they do not keep them and when we inquire about it, they say they have so large a number there that they cannot receive any more. Then, too, there is hardly one of these street beggars but is able to support themselves and for this reason they are turned out."

Dr. Cadwalader said that in London since the Society for Organizing Charity and Repressing Mendicancy came into existence in 1869, a very remarkable decrease in the street mendicants or vagrants had been effected. The reduction as shown by the Reports of the "Local Government Board" of that city had been about ninety per cent. The Society had caused this through the co-operative intervention of the Local Govern-

ment Board (i. e. the Guardians of the Poor) and the Police authorities. In the several Guardians' Districts there were constructed "Casual Wards," as they are called, for the detention of vagrants, somewhat as our Police Stations were intended to serve. These Casual Wards are cellular in construction and the vagrants have separate confinement, and are required to do a certain amount of labor, as sawing or cutting wood, similar to the practice in this respect in the Wayfarers' Lodge of the Overseers of the Poor in Boston. The vagrant or mendicant has such conditions of detention and discipline imposed that he does not find the "Casual Ward" agreeable as a night-refuge or resort from which he may the more economically and comfortably resume his vocation of begging during the day. The separate confinement, the labor required and a system restricting the release till after one or more day's confinement, according to the number of times of his committal, have served the preventive purpose designed. The Superintendents of the "Casual Wards" may refer in their discretion suitable cases to the Workhouse (House of Correction.)

It is suggested whether a similar provision could not be made here, at small cost, by a few of our Police Stations being properly arranged for the purpose, in convenient localities of the city. These stations would require but little and inexpensive alterations to adapt them, and would give the relief needed by the insufficient accommodation at the Almshouse. Any system that would free the city of this class, as has been done in London, would be well worth any money disbursed for this purpose, and be a direct saving to the city in the annual charge to it by this class.

The Mayor repeated that if provision is made for these persons he could clear the town of all the beggars. We are obliged to feed a great many persons in the Stationhouses. The Mayor showed the Committee a number of bills for meals furnished to prisoners at twenty-five cents each meal.

Mr. Sypher asked what would be the effect if provisions were made for retaining these street beggars at the several Police Stations, under proper regulations, until they could find employment.

Mayor—"That might relieve the difficulty; but we have too many pauper-making Institutions. I wish your new Society would seek out and relieve all the really needy of every class in the City. There are thousands of people in this City who are suffering for want of assistance and advice, some of the most worthy of these would starve to death before they would ask for help."

Mr. Garrett said: "We know this, and these are just the classes we are trying to help, and, to effect this, we want to get the impostors out of the way, that they may not absorb the charity intended for the deserving and helpless poor."

The Mayor said: "We must have some place to take care of those who cannot help themselves, but there is a large class that only want the assistance that you suggest."

Mr. Sypher: "The purposes of this Society are to seek out and to take by the hand all deserving needy persons when we find them, to help those that are not able to help themselves, and to put those who are willing, in positions to struggle up into a condition of self-support."

"Mr. Garrett asked: "Whether the Mayor thought it would be practicable to apply the labor test, as has been done in Boston, to every one who came to the station-houses for lodging," etc.

The Mayor replied: "This could and ought to be done; some of these people only want starting to work, and they soon come to like it. They are doing a splendid piece of work down on the Schuylkill (it would pay any of you gentlemen to go and see it). If a little common sense was applied, we could do almost all the work of this City in this way. You need not contract for macadamizing streets, in Germantown for instance; there are enough men in the House of Correction to do it as well, or better, than any contractor, who would probably employ the same men."

Mr. Sypher asked: "In your judgment, do you believe that labor might be furnished for all the able-bodied men in the community?"

The Mayor answered: "Certainly, I do; there is a proposition before the Board of Health to have the streets cleaned by the inmates of the House of Correction, and it should be done; it will save the City, according to the statement of the Managers of the House of Correction, \$100,000."

Dr. Child asked: "How about work for the women?"

The Mayor replied: "There might be more difficulty in this, but there is employment enough for many of these in the House of Correction."

What we really want is some place where these people can be detained and cared for, for a short time, until they can be put to work."

Mr. Garrett asked the Mayor if he would be willing to instruct his officers to give the Society, from time to time, the names and addresses of all the street beggars in the City, in order that the Ward Associations might have an opportunity of investigating the cases, and reporting those which give a false address.

"The Mayor replied: "That can be done; send me the request in writing and I will attend to it for you."

Dr. Cadwalader said: "We are happy, Mr. Mayor, in having in you one who understands this matter fully. We can see that in order that these things should be done satisfactorily, they should be done by one responsible head. I think your Honor has the opportunity of doing a very good thing for this City, and I believe you will do all you can to carry out these plans."

A conversation about the \$50,000 for Out-door relief ensuing, the Mayor thought that it was withheld mainly because it was known that it was not properly distributed.

Mr. Sypher said: "The suggestion that Dr. Cadwalader made was that you, Mr. Mayor, should address your practical good sense to this problem, and see in what way the growing power of this Charity Organization Society may be brought into effective co operation with the Departments of the City under your immediate supervision."

CASES.

Case No. 39.—An aged couple, 80 and 82 years old, living in an upper room, were reported as destitute, and needing prompt succor. The Superintendent was refused access to them by the family living below, who, however, verified their necessities, and offered to see aid properly administered. This suspicious act led to close investigation which showed that the old couple were the parents of the head of the family below, and that they had also other children, all in good circumstances and abundantly able to support the parents, but who were willing to deny and cast them off in the most heartless manner. The fraud being discovered and charged, the Superintendent and Committee on Decision compelled the children, by judicious moral suasion, to pay \$300 to secure the mother's entrance into a home, and to become responsible for the father's maintenance at the same home during life. The old people needed "not alms, but a friend," which they found in the Association, sufficiently weighty to bring the children to a sense of their duty, and too influential to be trifled with. The case cost something for expenses and "machinery," and not one cent for relief; but it paid both the Ward and the aged couple a thousand fold.

Case No. 40.—A woman asked at a Ward Office for provisions. She gave names of herself, husband and two children, street and number, where she said they had lived fifteen years, also other particulars and references. A Visitor promptly called and learned that the person of that name had formerly lived there and died in the house more than a year previously. The materialized spirit never came back for the provisions.

In the case of John —, of Twentieth Ward, who applied lately for relief, the Superintendent elicited that one James Clary, who keeps a rum shop in that locality took all John's money for liquor that same morning, and then turned him over to the Ward Association for relief. This plan worked so well under the public belief, as administered by the Visitors of the Poor, that it was very natural in Mr. Clary to try it with us.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, 31st May, 1880.

WM. V. KEATING, M. D.,

Chairman Committee of Conference, etc.:

DEAR SIR—At a stated meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, held May 24th, 1880, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of the Society to Prevent Mendicancy, tender to this body a list of their Visitors, with their respective residences, from which list this Board will select twelve, or one for each Poor District, who shall reside in the district. They shall be governed by the rules of this Board relating to Visitors of the Poor, and they shall meet monthly at the office of Guardians of the Poor, No. 43 North Seventh street, and form an organization and report to this Board and the State Board of Charities.

They shall inquire into all cases where application for admission to the Almshouse is desired and report the same to the Guardian of their respective district, said Guardian deciding as to the practicability of sending said applicant to the House, and if so, shall only be sent on commitment of the Guardian under his hand, said Visitor having no power to send any one to the House, nor will his order be recognized.

Resolved, That this Board or the City of Philadelphia shall be at no expense in any manner or form for said Visitors, who shall be entirely at the expense of the Society for the Prevention of Mendicancy.

Resolved, That the appointment of said Visitors shall not in any manner conflict with the rights, prerogatives or authority of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, and that said Visitors shall be in all matters subservient to said Board of Guardians of the Poor and rules of the Board governing Visitors of the Poor.

Resolved, That in cases of application of the Poor for a physician, the said Visitor of the Poor may report same to the Physician of the district, who will be governed in the discharge of his duties by rules heretofore made and provided in such cases.

Resolved, That the Visitors elected will hold the position until December 31st, 1880, unless sooner dismissed for cause

Attest—

R. S. WILLIAMSON,
Secretary Board of Guardians.

OFFICES OF THE WARD ASSOCIATIONS.

WARD.	LOCATION.	HOURS.	SUPERINTENDENT.
1.			
2.	1102 S. 5th st.,	10 to 12 and 2 to 5.	Thomas O. Webb.
3.	745 S. 4th St.,	9 to 10 and 2 to 4.	Robt. C. Floyd.*
4.	622 Alaska st.,	9 to 12 and 2 to 4.	Alpheus K. Long,†
5.	338 Griscom st.,	8 to 10 Tuesday.	John Hodges, acting.
6.	416 Race st.,	9 to 12.	Miss C. Hancock.
7.	1420 Lombard st.,	8 to 10 and 1 to 2.	Lewis G. Mytinger.
8.	1534 Sansom st.,	11 to 1 and 4 to 6.	Dr. E. P. Jeffers.
9.	1500 Vine st.,	5 to 6 P. M. Wed.	Wm. L. Springs.*
10.	817 North 4th st.,	9 to 11 A. M. Closed	R. O. Jeffers.
11.		last w'k in ea. mo.	
12.	730 Green st.,	7 to 9, 12 to 2, 4 to 7.	W. H. Parmenter.
13.	1119 Green st.,		Wm. Hawkins.*
14.	1962 Brown st.,	9 to 11.	Dr. James W. Walk.
15.	1003 Randolph st.,	9 to 12.	Charles M. G. Felten.
16.			
17.	1319 Otis st.,	2 to 3 and 6 to 8.	Dr. A. H. Hulshizer.
18.	2148 North 2d st.,	10 to 11.	Dr. P. M. Schiedt.
19.	1420 N. 8th, 2d floor,	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	W. W. Miller.
20.			
21.	No. 4 Harvey st.,	4 to 6.	Robert Coulter.
22.	Paul & Oxford sts.,	2 to 4 P. M., Wed.	Mrs. J. R. Savage.
23.	505 North 39th st.,	9 to 11 and 2 to 5.	F. V. Robinson.
24.			
25.			
26.			
27.	257 South 37th st.,	9 to 1 and 6 to 7.	Rev. F. C. Pearson.
28.			
29.	1910 Master st.,	5 to 6.	Dr. E. R. Stone.
30.	2035 Christian st.,	8 to 11 and 6 to 7.	W. D. Thomas.
31.	2308 Frankford ave.,	11 to 12 and 4 to 5.	F. P. Beal.*

*Of Committee on Decision of Relief, acting as Sup't ad interim.

†Volunteers his services in lack of a superintendent.

NOTICE.—City subscribers so desiring can have the REGISTER mailed to their country address during the summer by sending word to that effect to the Central Office.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 15, 1880.

[No. 9

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY.

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.

2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.

3d. To secure the community from imposture.

4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.

5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Henry C. Lea, Esq., No. 426 Walnut street, or to the Central Office, No. 1429 Market Street.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday, August 9, 4½ P. M. Board of Directors.

The Assembly Meetings are suspended during July and August.

The Women's General Conferences are suspended until October.

EDITORIAL.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS.

This body has just completed its annual meeting at Cleveland as our matter is ready for the press, and we can therefore barely notice it. The subject of ORGANIZED CHARITY was considered during the morning of the third and last day, being introduced by a paper from Rev. O. C. McCulloch, of Indianapolis, of which we have no report, but which is said to have been a valuable compilation of facts. Mrs. Clara Leonard, of the Massachusetts State Board of Charities, followed upon the need of disconnecting public Charity from the Church, it being easier to suppress mendicancy by rigid investigation than by religious work.

We hope to be able to present a digest of this discussion in our next issue.

Our Society was represented at the Conference by Dr. Chas. E. Cadwalader and Mr. Albert B. Williams.

We are glad to note that the next Conference is to be held in Boston and to continue six days, one whole day being given to "Organized Char-

ties in Cities." The importance of the subjects within the scope of the Conference is altogether too great to permit them to receive proper consideration in the brief time allotted to them heretofore.

CO-OPERATIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT.

A scheme has been put forth in London to provide, on mutual provident principles, for the best medical treatment for the industrial classes, as well as for clerks and tradesmen of small means. Being unable to pay the usual medical fees, they naturally seek for the abundant free Dispensary service, losing much time in attendance in crowds, receiving the slightest attention from some overworked dispensary officer who knows nothing of their individual cases, and thus causing much suffering and sometimes death.

The plan in question contemplates local associations on a co-operative principle, securing to members the best attendance and advantages. Each Association has its district dispensary for cases able to attend, and others are visited at their homes by a doctor of their own choice, from a selected list of the best practitioners, who becomes thus their family physician, familiar with the constitutions of young and old under his or her care. The best skilled nursing is also secured in the same way. The plan has many apparent advantages, and with suitable adaptation might well be introduced into Philadelphia to the relief of charitable dispensaries, and the vastly improved conditions of those able to contribute even only a small regular sum during health to their own Provident Dispensary. They might be closely allied to the beneficent associations and other mutual clubs with which the city already abounds. Should any persons desire farther information regarding them, the elaborated scheme of the London plan may be seen at the Central Office of this Society.

A CHARITY BUILDING NEEDED.

A need of every large city is a Central Charity Building, where various Societies can have their offices, where charitable information and influence and impulse may be concentrated, and where visible proof can be had of the benefits of co-operation. Boston thought it worth while to spend a quarter of a million dollars upon such a building, and some of its citizens estimate that it pays 100 per cent. a year to the citizens in the economy in, and improved administration of, Charity. Such a building would be a great boon to Philadelphia.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK.

Everybody who has read the thrilling chapters from real life contained in Charles Loring Brace's book with the above title, will wish to own a copy to refer to and lend to thoughtful friends. This is one of the classics and text books of intelligent Charity. Copies are on sale at the Central Office of this Society. Price, \$1.50.

THE yearly meeting of Friends, held in Philadelphia in May, thus emphasizes the peril resulting to poor human nature in every walk of life by taking away from able-bodied adults any possible stimulus to honorable labor, to thrift and self-dependence. Reporting the present condition of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, it states:

"They are now well supplied with all the appliances necessary for farming, with no excuse for not making rapid progress, except their natural disinclination to labor, and their large cash annuity, the latter being by far the most difficult obstacle to overcome."

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

JUNE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

The General Secretary reported that the majority of the Ward Associations were maintaining their work, with some diminution, perhaps, of energy and less constant services required of some of the Superintendents, but with encouraging symptoms that the provident and curative aims of the Society are gaining in their hold upon the community. A few Associations have discharged their Superintendents (i. e. the 2d, 10th, 14th and 31st), and applicants in those Wards must be referred to the Chairmen of Committees of Decision of Relief. Some of the remaining Superintendents are energetically prosecuting a thorough canvass of the families of their applicants, so as to understand intelligently their failings and weaknesses, and to stimulate them to thrift and improvement. The Fuel Savings Society has appointed several of our Superintendents as their Receivers, and these report good success in thus dealing with the families under their care.

It was ordered that the office hours of the Central Office until the 15th September be from 9 to 2 on Saturdays, and from 9 to 4 upon the other days of the week.

The resolutions of the Board of Guardians, acceding to our request that their Visitors be selected from our Superintendents, were referred to the Special Committee of Conference with the Guardians, with instructions to carry the same into effect.

An appropriation of \$75 was made to the 19th Ward Association, who have done a very efficient work under difficult circumstances.

The Editorial Committee were requested to prepare suggestions to the clergy of the city for sermons upon the aims and principles of Organized Charity, with the request that each give to his congregation during the autumn or early winter one sermon upon the topic indicated.

The Committee on Ward Associations was instructed to recommend to each Ward a fuller co-operation of men and women, as advised by the Assembly's Committee on Visitation and Women's Work (see page 2 of REGISTER for June), and endorsed by the Directors.

The resolutions of the Assembly's Committee on Hygiene, etc. (see page 2 of REGISTER for June), were referred to the Committee on Arrangements, to be made a special order of business at the September meeting of the Assembly, or as soon thereafter as possible, and the General Secretary was instructed to request each Ward Board to prepare themselves to throw all possible light upon the subject at the time of the discussion.

The Committee on Charter reported that the application for a charter was being advertised, and but little delay was anticipated in procuring it.

The Committee on Co-operation was requested to ascertain the extent to which the Ward Associations have co-operated with the Grand Old Institution and other Fuel Societies, and to report what action should be taken to secure fuller co-operation.

THE WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's General Conference was held on Monday morning, June 14th, the President, Mrs. Gillingham, in the chair; Miss Julia A. Myers acting as Secretary pro tem.

After reading the minutes, reports from various wards and from the Children's Country Week Association were received, showing a gratifying continuance of special work among the poor in the majority of the wards.

Rev. Mr. Duganne, of Lowell, Mass., was introduced as one studying into our principles and methods with a view to applying them at home. He said he had for many years advocated *Organized Charity*, and attempted it in a small way in his own city. The first whisper of any such organization came to him from Germantown, then from Buffalo, and finally from Philadelphia. He came to the latter hoping to gather ideas and plans which may be of profit in Lowell. The chief difficulties with which he had to contend were sectarian, it being almost impossible to obtain the co-operation of some of the ministers in work of this kind.

His individual plan had been to give but a limited amount of relief, and when cases were found to be confirmed paupers or disabled, to turn them over to the city authorities or institutions.

A noble citizen of Lowell had bequeathed a certain amount of money for Charity, which, however, was to be expended only for temporary relief. The expenditure being placed under his control, his method had been to give all able-bodied applicants an opportunity to work, with the understanding that the aid must cease if they continued to drink, and when they ceased to drink they rarely required farther aid.

The amount of pauperism in Lowell caused by intemperance is very large, and Mr. Duganne was often obliged to help against his better judgment, and to continue the aid longer than was elevating to the people. The question what was temporary relief caused him such endless difficulties that he was obliged to apply for an interpretation of the will that would enable him to restrict the amount of aid to idle and inemperate people, without a special requisition from the highest authority in the matter.

The responsibility of confirming them in shiftless and unambitious habits was thus taken out of his hands. Although often hard to refuse piteous appeals and apparent starvation, yet as the physician takes off the limb of a patient to save life, he persisted and found that not one starved; they even found work for themselves and were filled with new life and courage.

Mr. Duganne cited instances which he deemed most pernicious, of in-

judicious Charity by well meaning but thoughtless wealthy people becoming interested in a poor neighbor whom they help lavishly but unwisely, until spoiled by this treatment the family become confirmed paupers. What is needed in this work is great firmness of judgment combined with tender watchfulness and care.

Mr. Duganne then asked for information on many specific points, which the Visitors supplied as far as their experience enabled them to do.

In regard to intemperance, Mrs. Lesley of the 7th Ward answered that this Society had the same trouble to contend with; that no general rule of treatment could be given; but that a diagnosis of each individual case must be made and treated accordingly.

At the request of the ladies the Chair gave a successful instance of such a mode of treatment in the recent experience of the 20th Ward. Allusion was also made to the influence of the Country Week upon the children, and the vast improvement in the looks of the children, the benefit in health and elasticity of spirits being so great in one week's visit as to be almost incredible.

The question as to how the different nationalities compare in the experience of the Visitors, in degradation and persistent poverty, could not be accurately answered without statistics; but the general opinion was that the Americans were the least degraded, and the Germans next, the Irish and colored people ranking about the same. One Visitor of great experience had found the Irish the more intemperate and the colored the more immoral as a class.

Miss Newlin, of the 7th Ward, suggested homes in the country for intemperate men, several cases known to her having been greatly helped in this way.

Mrs. Wharton, of the 7th Ward, drew attention to the co-operation received from many of the officials of the Roman Catholic churches in this city. If the Archbishop did not actually favor the work of the organization, he did nothing to discourage it, and in many instances able advice and help had been given by the priests.

Mrs. Cohen, of the 8th Ward, enforced that the object of the Association was far above any denominational standard or class distinctions, in which all heartily agreed with her, and recognized that to this happy ignoring of such differences was due in a large degree the great success that had thus far attended our efforts.

(We are indebted to Miss Jean A. Flanigen, Secretary of the Corps of Visitors of the 7th Ward Association, for this, as well as for the previous reports of the Conferences which have appeared in the REGISTER.)

BUREAU OF CHILDREN'S AID.

A meeting of persons connected with the management of Children's Homes in this city was held in the Lecture Hall, at 15th and Market Sts., on the evening of June 17, for conference and "advice upon the feasibility of opening a Bureau where information in respect to children may be centralized, thus avoiding the great expenditure of time and strength, now necessary on the part of Superintendents and Visitors to obtain a knowledge of the capacity of Educational and Charitable Institutions, of vacancies therein, and the various data that would facilitate a speedy and correct judgment in the treatment of the children who come under their care."

Dr. H. Lenox Hodge was called to the Chair, and Dr. H. T. Child acted as Secretary. Mr. Torrence, as Chairman of the Assembly Committee on the Education and Care of Children, under the auspices of which the Conference had been called, explained the purposes of the meeting. After thanking those present for the interest manifested in their attendance, he stated that the step grew out of the immediate necessities in the constant experience of our Superintendents, as well as of the officers of other Societies with whom we had conferred, for exact information as to what disposition to make of the delinquent children coming under their care. Much time and labor is wasted in running around among the different Homes, with reference to individual cases, and as the conditions of each institution are constantly varying, we could not adjust the difficulties unless assisted by the mutual concurrence of the Homes themselves. It was not intended to throw around the Societies even the most silken of cords to bind them to the CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY; but the movers were simply actuated by a desire to do the best thing in every case for the thousands of neglected children running about our streets. Careful statistics show that about 30,000 depressed children are in our midst today, of whom only about 3,000 have the restraining and ameliorating influences of the Children's Homes thrown around them, and it is a bounden duty to ask what shall be done with and for this 27,000? Unless cared for now, the ranks of this army of helpless and neglected ones will sooner or later fill our prisons, and increase our taxation and our lists of crime.

The General Secretary of the Charity Organization Society, from the experiences of the past two years, was satisfied that there is much wasted expenditure of time and effort, caused by want of that co-operation among the Children's Societies themselves, and that intercommunication and stated interchange of knowledge and ideas which is so valuable in any department of social or political life. Each being laudably anxious for their own institution have hoarded their wisdom and thought for its own especial benefit, and thus perhaps the broad cause of the greatest good to the greatest number of destitute children has been unintentionally overlooked. Co-operation and cordial intercourse of a specific and orderly kind can do as much for individual societies as the same harmony does in business and financial circles, and possibly promote immeasurably the general welfare of depressed childhood, a matter of so much moment to our own children and to our country. Co-operation is everywhere strength and effectiveness, and these are nowhere more needed than in dealing with the class in question. THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY has no preconceived plans to carry out, or views to enforce. It does not aim to do the specific

work of any other body, but to harmonize all Charities, and to supplement each and every one as far as possible, and having initiated harmony and increased utility in any department it is quite content to remain in the background as the servant of all. Such joint co-operation seems of easy attainment in the exercise of the broadest Charity to the childhood that in its neglected helplessness appeals to our sympathy and care. Most of the service could be voluntary, and the cost of what other facilities the Charity Organization Society could not supply would be insignificant compared with the probable results to the general cause in hand.

Mrs. S. I. Lesley and Dr. Cadwalder recalled the results of such work upon the poor children of New York City, Aberdeen, Scotland, and elsewhere, as giving great encouragement for a similar wide-spread effort here; and also made many suggestions regarding the work which could be done by the contemplated Bureau among lodging houses, industrial schools, homes in the country, Charity kindergartens, kitchen gardens, etc., dwelling especially on the need of personal individual influence upon every child as a necessary principle in all dealings with this class, whether as dependents or delinquents.

The following resolutions were then offered:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Conference there should be established in this city a Bureau entitled "A BUREAU OF CHILDREN'S AID," to facilitate the prompt and proper disposition of dependent and delinquent children.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this meeting, consisting of the secretary and one representative of each of the several institutions in the care of these classes of children, together with the members of the Committees whose names are appended to the call for this Conference, and that they be instructed to suggest a plan for the proposed Bureau, to be reported to a subsequent meeting of the Conference.

These resolutions were supported by Mr. Benj. I. Crew, Dr. Wm. B. Atkinson, Miss Cornelia Hancock and Samuel Huston, Esq., and unanimously adopted; and the meeting adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

532 WALNUT STREET, June, 1880.

Editors of The Monthly Register:

The enclosed paper may be of interest to your readers. The Managers of the House of Refuge are anxiously seeking a plan for removing that establishment to the country, and to that end ask the co-operation of all who are bent on improving our reformatories.

Yours truly,
J. G. ROSENGARTEN.

THE NETHERLAND METTRAY.

In Havard's "Picturesque Holland," London, 1876, page 238, is the following description of this miniature but faithful copy of the other colony on the borders of the Loire, a few miles from Tours. Nothing is more touching and instructive than a walk through these pretty cottages, in the midst of their gardens and lawns, or than an excursion on the land cultivated by the colony. In a few hours one discerns the narrow limit which separates good from evil better than by reading a host of books. For here the possibility of transmuting wasted powers which might otherwise have been dangerous, into useful forces, is demonstrated. The Dutch Mettray was founded in 1851, by M. Swingen, a friend of M. de Metz. The colony consists of small houses, each taking the name of a family, on the sides of a green lawn. At the foot are the workshops and offices, at the top the church. There are only ten cottages, containing in all 120 children, scarcely a fourth of the population of Mettray. Each of these pretty cottages bears on its front the name of the donor. Each house is inhabited by a number of children who live together as one family, and form a household of itself, whose softening influence has produced the very best results on these poor little outcasts. As a rule they look very well in their working clothes, and their happy faces, straight figures and respectful manners bear witness to their return to better ways. As in France, farming is the chief part of the work done here. The grand principle which guided De Metz at Mettray, is applied at Zutphen—to improve the earth by man, and man by means of the earth. Although the ground at the disposal of the colony is not very extensive, nevertheless it keeps the young colonists hard at work, together with their horticultural labors, the keeping of the stables clean, and the care of the animals. Several boys are put to trades which have to do with farming or the wants of the colony, such as wheelwrights, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, etc. In France, Mettray was built from the proceeds of public charity and is maintained chiefly from the same source, aided by the Government, which pays a certain sum for the support of each child; for Mettray only receives such boys as are bound by law to be kept in Houses of Correction at the expense of the State for having committed offenses for which they are not responsible, owing to their tender age; hence it is right for the State to spend at Mettray the money it would otherwise pay to a prison. The Dutch Mettray is absolutely and entirely supported by private charity. The Government has nothing to do with it from a financial point of view. All it does is to give up the children to be educated there. Not a farthing of money is paid for the support of the children. The expenses of the establishment are paid by subscribers. Thirty-four towns and villages contribute to this work, from the capital down to tiny hamlets. Each such subscriber can place a child and yet keep him to a certain extent under his own care. There are many orphans and a few vicious boys. At Mettray the latter are kept apart, in more severe discipline, in a house called the Father's House, while the former are not admitted. The authority is not so severe at the Dutch Mettray as at Tours—discipline is more love, and rules are less strict. At Mettray in France, there are no deserters; in Holland desertions are very frequent. The Director said: "I had more bacon put in the soup, and the bad boys were more willing to stay with me." Not being able to touch them by kindness he appealed to them through their stomachs—a practical way of acting.

THE CHILDREN'S WEEK.

PHILADELPHIA, June 21 1880.

MESSRS. EDITORS—With others I attended the meeting of June 7th, "to discuss the Children's Summer Week." I wondered what there possibly could be to discuss about so evident a blessing as giving the poor pent-up children of our city courts a taste of

God's health-inspiring, pure country air, water and good wholesome food for a whole week. It is the one bright spot in these children's lives, on which they have lived, and thought, and talked ever since, marking a new epoch, giving a new idea of living, of which before they knew nothing; and they brought this new revelation to their poor homes, in using even there some of the sunshine and new life, perceptible not only in the improved appearance of these homes, but in the habits of the families. And just here let me say we have struck the key note to our whole work in caring for the children. In looking over my records I am surprised to find that very few of the parents of the children sent to the county last summer from this ward made application for help during the past winter. Is there not here a good text for our Associations to consider? Why, a very few more summers' work and Children's Weeks, with a few more Day Nurseries, Kindergartens and Kitchen Schools, a few more earnest women workers, a little more oil for the machinery and we will, with the rising generation as our co-workers, drive mendicancy and suffering want from our midst; they will die a natural death.

W. H. PARMENTER,
Superintendent 13th Ward Association.

FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF EIGHTH AND NINTH WARDS.—Mr. Editor—I am frequently asked what is done with the floating population of the city, and complaints are often made by the contributors and friends of this Association, when a ticket is given to a beggar at the door, of their return about an hour later with the complaint that the Superintendent is out, or that he refuses to help them, which tends to prejudice the community against our Society. On behalf of the Wards which I represent, I wish to state that in all cases coming to the office with or without tickets, their story is listened to, and, if the party is not known, he is taken care of until his case can be investigated.

Should he be a foreigner, he is sent to the Society representing the country from which he comes. For the migrating population in search of work, they are informed of the place where they can most likely get work and are furnished with lodging, and, in some cases where the investigation proves satisfactory, transportation is procured. E. P. J., Supt.

(In none of our Associations is any case dismissed without prompt inquiry and attention. Most complaints to the contrary are signs that the applicant for aid is practising acts of deception upon the community.—Eds.)

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

THE LONDON CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.—The eleventh annual meeting of the Society was recently held, under the chairmanship of the Duke of Northumberland, at Willis's Rooms, St. James.

The chairman announced that the position he had the honor to occupy would be taken next year by his Royal Highness, Prince Leopold, and the well-known benevolence of his Royal Highness and his anxiety for the welfare of the necessitous class would render it unnecessary for him to speak in terms of comment upon this event. During the last year they have had throughout the country a period of distress and depression of trade, and this has been especially felt in the metropolis; but in face of this depression of trade and consequent distress, they state a remarkable fact—a fact unequalled in the history of distress in London—this being that for the first time it has been found unnecessary to call upon the public to form a distress relief fund in aid of public and individual effort. Whatever distress has occurred has, by the aid of this Society, been relieved without any of those gigantic appeals to the public at large which used formerly to be made to assist the distressed. Now the absence of any appeal during this year of distress and depression was, to his mind, one of the most remarkable facts which has ever occurred in the history of the Charity Organization Society, and is a standing testimony to the immense value of its principles and efficiency.

He thought it would not be unprofitable to hear some of the views of those who complain against the Society, and read a few of the allegations made against those who desire to organize charity, so that it shall do good to those who receive it and not be a wrong upon those who give. Among others he received a well-written letter, extracts from which will show how much it is attempted by person of fair education even, to prejudice the public mind against the Society. The writer says:

"I venture to predict that the report will contain no true account of the many deserving poor who have been callously spurned and carelessly slandered by this Society, particularly those of that class who have been brought up to no trade. Dire necessity has made them willing to stoop to distasteful labor for bread, but no one will employ tender hands—a refined appearance and cultivated speech are disqualifications in the manual labor market."

The writer declares further on:

"An application for help, no matter what testimony is given in his favor by one or two persons of certified position and probity, is subjected to a scrutiny that bears about the same relation to necessary and effective inquiry as the hacking of a butcher's cleaver does to a surgical operation."

Now, the question which here arises is whether you are to administer charity upon mere statement of the individual, or whether you are to make investigations for yourself. Of course all investigations are necessarily distasteful. All, or nearly all, the communications one receives asking for assistance are headed "strictly confidential," and directly I propose to refer those I receive to parties who will inquire into the cases, I am told that I am breaking through the confidential relation which has been presented to me. Thus we see that all inquiries are disliked; but I hold that it is not well to yield to those who seek charity without having full information, and this can only be obtained by proper inquiry. Now I will give you, from the communication to which I have already referred, another extract, showing still further the erroneous views held as to the duty of the charitable. The writer says:

"I know of one instance where a young married man out of work ap-

plied to the Charity Organization Society for temporary help, and in proof of his respectability gave the name of a well-to-do uncle. He was written to and was so much annoyed at his nephew's applying for relief that he refuses to hold intercourse with him, and the man's hopes from his uncle in favor of his children are blighted. It is needless to add that he got nothing from the Charity Organization Society."

It follows from the extract that the writer holds, as those whom he represents hold, that you are to put your hands into your pockets to assist those who have relations and friends perfectly capable of relieving them. I hold that the first claims of the necessitous are upon their relatives and friends before appeals are made to others. I will give you another quotation from this representative letter:

"The history of Christendom for 1800 years furnishes only one instance of an institution formed for the purpose of stemming, and, if possible, drying up the generous flow of charity. To achieve the object is the work and singular distinction of the Charity Organization Society."

That is the way in which we are characterized—"a Society for Stemming the flow of Christian Charity"—and one observation may be drawn from it, that in the investigations of all cases there is a great deal of care to be taken, and a great deal of discrimination to be exercised. It is impossible that cases shall not arise in which the inexperience of the inquirers may bear harshly; but it should be maintained and upheld, as a principle, that no charity should be given, or advised, until after due inquiry into the circumstances of the applicant.

Lord Derby said: "I do not know that I can add much to the address which you have heard from the noble Duke in the chair. I have great pleasure in complying with the request to move the adoption of the report which in a figurative sense has just been read, for two reasons. First, because having watched more or less closely the proceedings of the Charity Organization Society from its foundation some eleven or twelve years ago, I am able to speak with some personal knowledge of the useful and valuable work which it has done; and my next reason is because it has met with the usual fortune of those, be they institutions, or be they individuals, by whom useful and valuable public work is done. For, as on the one hand it has been ardently and zealously supported, so on the other it has been bitterly and continuously attacked; and that is, as I think, all the more reason why those who believe, as I do, that its principle is sound and its work has been beneficial, should not now leave it in the lurch.

"The old question—'Who is my neighbor?' is a very easy one to answer in a thinly populated district; but when a man has four millions of neighbors it is clear that merely to give right and left to every stranger who comes to you with a plausible story, is rather worse than simply wasting money, because money which is given in that way is absolutely certain to get into the hands of professional beggars, who beat the meritorious applicants out of the field. The professionals have a double advantage over the really deserving. In the first place they are not constrained by any consideration of fact from dressing up their story in the most effective way; and next they have all the advantage of experience, some of very considerable experience in that line, so that they know the kind of story which will be most useful for their purpose. Now, I do not think we need be the least ashamed of saying plainly that one of the principal objects of this Society is to make war upon that class. It is never a bad day's work to get a rascal punished. There is no better testimony to the efficiency with which that part of the Society's work has been done than is to be found in the howls and menaces of detected swindlers. If they preyed only on well-to-do people, they would still be a social nuisance; but as a matter of fact they get their living by robbing the poor. They take what is meant for the relief of distress, and they do worse—they create in many minds a feeling of doubt as to the genuineness of any story of distress which they may hear, and that tells against real sufferers. They do not merely divert the main stream of liberality into channels of their own, but they do what the noble Duke in the chair just now told us this Society was accused of doing—they dry up the stream itself.

"Nobody can doubt that far more would be given away than is now given, if it were not for the doubt felt by persons who are rational and observant as well as charitable, and who are perpetually asking themselves whether that which they are doing is likely to do good or harm. I have spoken so far only of impostors, but it is painful to see how, under a system simply of unorganized charity, where everyone gives without reference to or connection with his neighbor, many applicants who in the first instance were really honest and deserving persons, gradually fall into these questionable ways of getting their living. I will take what is a common case—a widow left poorly off with a family, or a man more or less permanently disabled from work. They appeal in the first instance timidly and with some feeling of reluctance and shame to persons whom they know. Real sympathy is excited, and a sum of money, considerable to them, but not sufficient to place them permanently in a position to help themselves, is obtained in that manner. The money is spent in due course; then the process has to be repeated a second time, and a larger circle is appealed to and a new harvest comes, and in the end the real story not being found quite effective enough for its purpose, is considerably improved by touches added on, and that which was at first a casual and innocent resource, becomes the habitual mode of getting their living; and so, out of persons who were originally deserving sufferers, are manufactured those beings with whom we are all familiar—begging letter writers. Now, all that might have been prevented if effectual help had been given in the first instance. But effectual help in such a case can only be given by the collective action of many persons banded together in some organization like ours. The fact is that even where imposture is not suspected we want in a Society like ours somebody who will undertake to look into cases of distress and to see, assuming that it is distress that ought to be relieved, how help can be best given. It is nonsense to say, as some people occasionally do say, that every one ought to be his own almoner, and to

speak with contempt of those who discharge their duties of charity by the simple process of writing a check. After all, what else, or what better can they do in many cases? How can a lawyer in great practice, or a merchant in the city, or a medical man, or an active politician, take any active part in the distribution of charitable funds? Many among the richer class are busy as well as wealthy: their time is worth more to them than money, and more to other people also. And even of those who have leisure, not all are either disposed or qualified to employ it in work of this kind. For one who can investigate for himself a case which he may wish to relieve, there are a thousand who cannot, or will not, though they give to the poor from various motives; sometimes from real pity of the poor, sometimes from a sort of sentiment of social justice—a sort of feeling that they have got more than they have any moral right to, while other people have less—sometimes from purely religious motives, sometimes because other people do it, and because they understand that it is the right thing to do. All these classes, however various their motives, agree in one thing—they part with their money principally to relieve their own feelings, and where it goes to or what becomes of it, or what use it is to be put to is altogether a secondary matter.

"Now here the Charity Organization Society steps in and says: 'Do not let your funds be thrown away. Send applicants to us, or send us money to deal with the applications which we receive. You can supply the resources, without which we are helpless. We can supply the supervision and give the advice which you will not easily get elsewhere. Let there be a division of labor; let each of us do what we are fitted to undertake.' Again, everyone knows what it is to say: 'Here is a hard case; I am willing to help to the extent of a few pounds, but anything short of £100 or more will be no real use. This person has no special claim on me and I cannot take the whole burden upon myself.' Well, now that is just the case where a Society like ours can interpose; where, by collective action, effective help can be given without very undue burden upon any one person in particular."

FUEL SAVING SOCIETY.—This admirable Society has just issued its 59th annual report, from which it appears that during the last season they aided 1,536 families (containing 5,912 persons) in saving up \$10,340.26 from their summer earnings to provide for their winter fuel. The economy and thrift thus encouraged among the very poor (and no others are permitted to deposit with the Society) is a better Charity to them than a million scattered in lavish and indiscriminate alms giving, and bespeaks an ambition and self-respect in these families that it is the duty of all benevolent persons to endeavor to excite among those they would assist, in place of enervating them by unwise gifts.

The Managers make the following valuable suggestion, which we commend to the serious consideration of all our workers:

"The attention of many worthy poor people has been called to this Society by the different Ward Associations of the 'Society for Organizing Charity' and the advantages of saving small sums of money fully demonstrated; and your Managers would be glad to see other societies started on the same principle as ours, for the distribution of flour, provisions, clothing and other necessities of life, believing it to be a greater Charity to assist the poor to help themselves than to give money or other articles without any equivalent."

These Managers, of whom Israel H. Johnson is President and Chas. P. Perot is Secretary will doubtless gladly give suggestion to those who may be incited to start savings clubs for the poor in other branches. One such club is already in operation under the auspices of one of our 8th Ward Visitors.

SILK CULTURE.—We take pleasure in stating that at a recent meeting of the *Women's Silk Culture Association*, a resolution was passed, presenting to each of the Ward Associations of our own Society, one free scholarship in the Association; entitling each ward to send one pupil to the rooms of the Association to be gratuitously instructed in the details of silk culture. This is a very generous evidence of co-operation, a great merit of which is that it opens a new line of employment for women, children and the infirm, and avoids competition or places in overcrowded trades. Officers of the several Ward Associations will please note this information, and will do well to select a suitable candidate for the scholarship with as little delay as practicable. Further information may be obtained at the office of this Society, or of Dr. Chamberlaine, Superintendent, S. W. corner Chestnut and Juniper streets.

CASES.

INSTANCES are not rare in which a most beautiful spirit is manifested by very poor people towards their neighbors in distress.

Case No. 42.—One colored family, struggling to earn a livelihood, had in addition to their own children an adopted boy whom they were bringing up, "found in a stable—parents unknown."

Case No. 43.—Another hard-working colored woman had two waifs on her hands. "Somebody must take care of dem," she said.

Case No. 44.—29th Ward.—A respectable appearing man was sent to us with a personal note from the President of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, commending him as very worthy. The case was already well known to us and is mentioned as a sample of a very large class. In behavior no doubt this man and his family were correct, but they seem to have been smitten with the mania for soliciting aid instead of devoting the same energy to developing a support by earning it. The man had spent weeks and months deploring the decadence of his branch of handicraft, that of stone mason, and his unfitness for the heaviest labor, while opportunities for jobs that would at least bring bread were let slip. The remark of N. F. Evans, Esq., at one of our meetings will bear repeating often: "Ten hours a day of good hard work hunting employment will generally bring it."

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 15, 1880.

[No. 10

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Board. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1429 Market street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

MEETINGS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICES.

Monday,	August 23,	4½ P. M.,	Board of Directors.
Monday,	September 6,	8 P. M.,	Assembly.
Monday,	September 13,	4½ P. M.,	Board of Directors.

The Women's General Conferences are suspended until October.

EDITORIAL.

THE Society has secured rooms for its Central Office upon the first floor of No. 1602 Chestnut Street, and it is expected that the removal to that location will take place by the 1st of September.

MEN AND WOMEN WORKERS.

In a paper read recently before the Assembly an appeal was made for a better co-operation of Directors and Visitors in the work of the Ward Associations. The subject is one of vital importance, and the Assembly instructed its Board of Directors to bring it before the Society. There are cogent reasons for such co-operation.

The first one we shall give is, perhaps, the one the women would least urge, although it is of great moment. It is this—without perfect community of judgment and purpose the Visitors are put to much embarrassment. Either they find their views overruled without a chance to be heard, and without those explanations which would show them wherein they are thought mistaken, or they perceive that their opinions are deferred to with an uncomplimentary ease, which looks to them like indifference.

Second. Unless there be co-operation our work will soon become a two-headed scheme, with the certain accompaniments of misunderstandings and discords.

Third. The tendency of separate labors is to leave to the Boards of Direction the simple function of raising and disbursing money, while our fundamental laws are designed to secure their judgment as to measures for the personal improvement of particular cases among the poor. As soon as the Direction becomes an almoning agency, we fall into the error we have professedly discarded, and the members thereof lose the invaluable and heart-educating experience of dealing specifically with human beings, rather than with things. There can be no true administration of Charity which is not founded on a study of personal situations, temptations and characters. This study is the exact scope of the Visitors' work, and they have vital information to impart—information without which administration is unintelligent and empirical.

As for the methods by which a larger co-operation may be brought about, that is a question capable of various solutions, but deserving careful reflection and painstaking. Thus far there have been three measures proposed or adopted:

First. It was originally intended that the Committees on Visitation of the Boards of Direction, and the Executive Committees of the Visitors' Corps, should meet in frequent conference to adjust the common interests of each branch of the work.

Second. In some wards women have been placed on the Boards of Direction.

Third. In some instances the Boards of Direction have one meeting for purely administrative business, and another, the same month, for the express purpose of conference with the Visitors, either as a whole, or through a Woman's Committee chosen by the Visitors.

The latter course seems to have given the most satisfaction; but probably none of these schemes is quite adequate or suited for permanent incorporation into the Charity Organization system. It is probable, too, that what may be wisdom in one locality of the city, would be foolishness in another. The matter must be decided in each Ward Association, and upon a full conference of both parties to it. Our future depends very gravely upon the solution of this problem which may be reached. If it receives the patient and serious consideration which it deserves, we are confident that a satisfactory arrangement will be made, one which will not impair the enthusiasm and efficiency of the Society, but will promote unity of opinion and feeling, faithfulness to Charity Organization principles, a wider and nobler view of methods, and a more salutary influence upon the poor.

VAGRANT AND TRAMP LAWS.

In the account of the proceedings of the Board of Directors, published this month, there will be found an interesting statement of the laws concerning tramps and vagrants, made by a committee of legal gentlemen, who specially inquired into the matter. It will be seen that the statutes distinguish between the tramp and the vagrant, and between the methods of dealing with them. The beggars who live in the city or county are vagrants, and may be dealt with, as of old, by the magistrate, while the tramp must be tried by a jury. The difficulty in the way of applying the laws concerning vagrancy and street begging lies chiefly in the course taken by the Managers of the Almshouse and of the House of Correction. The Guardians of the Poor hold that a person cannot be sent to Blockley without his own consent, and all others are refused admission. The Managers of the House of Correction grant such facilities to the inmates for getting out that the magistrate's commitment is often hardly worth making out. We have the record of a case sent thither for street begging at the instance of a Ward Superintendent. The fellow was found the next day plying his vocation in front of the Ward Office, as an act of defiance of the Superintendent.

The laws, however, would be more earnestly enforced by the authorities if the Directors of the Ward Associations would follow up a few cases, causing the arrest and commitment of some street beggars, and watching over the custody of them while in durance. When citizens will take the trouble to see how public officers discharge their responsibilities, provisions of law which are now dormant will become operative.

The following supplementary opinion has been sent to us, which we add as throwing still further light on the proper methods of proceeding upon the arrest of vagrants:

"Although magistrates have no *aggressive* powers, they have ample judicial powers to deal with all cases taken before them.

"Magistrates can commit to both Almshouse and House of Correction, notwithstanding the opinions of Messrs. Hagert and West.

"Do Managers use 'proper discretion' when they violate the specific terms for discharge imposed by the law? Also, when they assume to pass upon the propriety of commitments, and to reverse the judgments of Courts in unauthorized ways? The law specifies remedies available to both Managers and inmates, namely: Application to the Court of Quarter Sessions, as provided in the Acts of Assembly in cases where persons feel themselves aggrieved by the action of the Magistrates."

VALUABLE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

A well-bound volume, containing a copy of the general papers issued by this Society previous to its Second Annual Meeting, and of the printed Annual Reports of our Ward Associations, may be had at this office for 50 cents, or by mail for 65 cents, which sum covers only the cost of binding and postage.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

JULY MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

A communication was received from the 27th Ward Association, stating that the only cases coming to their notice the past month had been those of street-begging children, and asking the Board to institute measures to procure the proper enforcement of the laws provided for the suppression thereof.

An appropriation of \$50 was made to the 23d Ward Association.

The publication of an edition of Rev. C. G. Ames' paper on "WISDOM IN CHARITY," for general distribution was authorized.

The Committee on Charter reported as follows upon certain communications from the 8th and 9th Wards, which had been referred to it:

1. In "regard to the power of the Magistrates to abate the evil of mendicancy," the Committee are of the opinion that the Magistrates have no power to abate the evil referred to. All they have to do with the matter is to pass upon the individual cases of persons arrested for vagrancy, etc., with reference to the sufficiency of evidence to justify a commitment of the persons arrested. When a person is arrested as a tramp or vagrant, and taken before a Magistrate, and it appears from the evidence that the offender is a "Tramp," it is the duty of the Magistrate to commit him for trial in the Court of Quarter Sessions. But if it appears from the evidence that the offender is a "Vagrant," and is exempt from punishment as a "Tramp," on account of having a fixed place of residence or lawful occupation, or on account of not making a practice of going about begging, or from other cause, it is the duty of the Magistrate to commit said offender to the Almshouse, House of Correction or other place in accordance with the Act of 1876.

2. In regard to the repeal of the Vagrant Act of May 8, 1876, the Committee are of the opinion that the said Act is repealed only so far as it relates to that particular class of "Vagrants" which, under the Act of April 30, 1879, are denominated "Tramps."

3. In regard to whether any additional legislation is needed, the Committee are of the opinion that existing laws make ample provisions for the commitment of all Vagrants. Under the Vagrant Act of 1876 it is the duty of constables and police officers, either upon information of a citizen, or upon their own view, to arrest "All persons going about from door to door, or placing themselves in streets, highways, or other roads, to beg or gather alms, and all persons wandering abroad and begging who have no fixed place of residence in the township, ward or borough in which the vagrant is arrested." Under the Tramp Act of 1879 it is competent for any person, officer or private citizen, to apprehend any man who may be seen in the act of begging, and to take him before a Magistrate for a hearing. The Act defines a Tramp as "Any person going about from place to place begging, asking or subsisting upon Charity, and for the purpose of acquiring money, or a living, and who shall have no fixed place of residence or lawful occupation in the county or city in which he shall be arrested," and who cannot prove that he does not make a practice of going about begging. This Act does not apply to females or minors under the age of sixteen years, blind, deaf or dumb persons, nor to maimed or crippled persons who are unable to perform manual labor.

4. In regard to the sufficiency of legislation to secure the detention and proper punishment of vagrants after they have been committed by the Magistrate, the Committee are of the opinion that no additional legislation is needed:

Provided, That sufficient appropriations are made for the maintenance of the Almshouse and House of Correction.

And provided, That the managers of said institutions use proper discretion in the discharge of vagrants.

The Vagrant Act of 1876 provides that "The custodian or custodians of such vagrants may, at discretion, discharge such vagrants at any time within the term of commitment, upon not less than ten days' good behavior, or upon satisfactory security that they shall not become a charge upon the public within one year from the date of such discharge."

J. R. SYPKER,
ROBERT N. WILLSON,
ALBERT B. WILLIAMS, } Committee.

The same Committee reported that the Society was now fully incorporated, the Charter having been granted by the Courts.

The following summary of consolidated weekly returns from the Ward Associations, for April, May and June, was submitted, with returns for the corresponding months of last year:

I. RELIEF WITHHELD.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
Vagrants	62	29	53 Decrease.
Referred to their own Wards	88	33	63 "
Not requiring relief	119	33	72 "
Undeserving	66	5	91 "
Ineligible	25	1	99 "
False Address	26	4	85 "
Total	386	105	
II. OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
Guardians of the Poor	43	13	70 Decrease.
Institutions and Local Agencies	41	27	34 "
Private Persons	2	6	200 Increase.
Total	86	46	

III. RELIEVED BY W'D ASSOCIATIONS.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
By grant of food and fuel	2,775	923	66 Decrease.
By loans	15	2	87 "
By employment	163	87	46 "
Total	2,953	1,012	
Total Applications	3,425	1,162	66 Decrease.
Value of grants	\$1,597.60	\$702.61	66 "

Notice was given to the Board that the Society would have to vacate, by the 1st of October next, the premises now occupied by them for their Central office.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION AND THE ALMSHOUSE.

We have received the following letter from one who was for many years an active member of the Board of Managers of the House of Correction, and who was earnest in his efforts, both for the reformation of the inmates and to make the institution self-sustaining. We earnestly hope that the Finance Committee of Councils will take the subject into careful consideration, and with such suggestions as a starting point, devise some plan which will secure the greatest benefit to the tax-payers, as well as to the offenders whose reformation is sought through the correction and restraint provided at this institution. There is much value in the recommendations of Mr. Kilpatrick, and there will be but little difference of opinion as to the advisability, if not the need, of employing the inmates of this institution on our public works:

PHILADELPHIA, July 18, 1880. }
144 South Fourth street. }

MR. CHAS. D. KELLOGG,

General Secretary of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity:

I have read in the daily papers of an interview between his Honor the Mayor of the city, and a Committee of your Society, to discuss measures to relieve the city, if possible, of vagrants and beggars.

The question arises, how can this class be used and made self-sustaining, to their own moral improvement, and to the best advantage of the city?

As I was connected for many years, from its first inception, with the institution (the House of Correction) that was built at great cost to the city, for the purpose of curing the very evils named in your interview with the Mayor, and considering his willingness to co-operate with your Society to correct these evils, I think I can suggest a way by which all the unused labor of its inmates could be utilized and made in part or whole to support the institution, and thus lift the burden off the tax-payers.

My intimacy with the Managers of the institution has convinced me of their earnest desire to bring about all that was aimed at when the House was built, and the time has now arrived to begin the good work without fear or favor.

The labor of the inmates should be used in the various municipal departments of the city, in such ways as not to interfere appreciably with outside labor. The Mayor alluded to the work on the meadow banks as showing how their labor could be applied. As one of the prime movers in that work, my chief thought was to make it popular with the men. Many citizens, and even some of the Managers of the institution, although willing to give the project a fair trial, were very doubtful of success. But the uncertainty has passed and the work has progressed for over a year to the entire satisfaction of all immediately concerned, as well as of the Mayor, who has taken an active interest in the work. The men and guards go cheerfully every Monday morning to the work, and stay until Saturday afternoon, when they are taken back to the house for the Sabbath and to renew their clothing. The character of the work accomplished proves that with proper organization anything that this class of labor is capable of doing can be readily accomplished.

Since the work on the meadow banks was commenced the Managers have entered into a contract with the Highway Department to macadamize both the State road in the 23d Ward and South Broad street from Passyunk road to League Island.

By using this labor of the inmates for these contracts there are two great ends gained. First, a saving to the City Treasury of a large amount, and Second, helping the institution to be self-sustaining.

The Managers of the House of Correction have also made an effort to save the tax-payers one hundred thousand dollars, by utilizing the labor of the inmates for the cleaning of the streets of the city; and believing it to be entirely feasible, they now have an ordinance before Councils asking permission to contract for this service, and requesting an appropriation for the purchase of tools, etc. I have no doubt of its success, as responsible parties will take away all the dirt when broomed and scraped up, without one cent of cost to the city; and will also remove all the cess-pool matter, garbage and ashes without any other expense to the city than the price fixed by the Board of Health. Therefore it is the evident duty of those who control the finances of the city to assist the Managers in their laudable work of organizing and effecting this undertaking, which secures both a great saving to the city and a moral benefit to those who shall be employed.

As to organizing the service. First, I would locate in each District as now laid out by the Board of Health, a station where the men could be

brought from the House of Correction every Monday morning and remain during the week, as is done at the meadow banks. The men, watched by sufficient guards and conveniently distributed over the Districts, could do the work at night, and thus save the objectionable exposure of the men. No man should be made to go to his work unwillingly. Inducement could be held out to each prisoner committed for not less than three months, that if faithful he should be presented at discharge with a new suit and a few dollars in his pocket, wherewith to make a fresh start in life. Under some such plan I am sure that the institution would soon become one of reformation, as it can never become under its present system. Most of the inmates are committed scantily clothed and penniless. On entering they assume the prisoners' garb, which they wear until discharged, when they again put on the suit with which they entered; and with no money in their pocket and a walk of eight miles before them, it is no wonder that on reaching the city hungry, tired and thirsty, they are found begging and stealing; and it is a lamentable fact that six out of every ten that are discharged find their way back to the institution within a week of their departure from its walls. This method of employment and lodging being provided, it would prevent many from lounging around police stations and idling about the streets, and would stimulate them to seek honest employment.

Much more could be said in detail about organizing this branch of work, but the above will enable your Committee to form an opinion whether it would do to attempt this project with the aid of the different authorities under whose supervision this work would come.

It might be argued that such an arrangement would interfere with outside honest labor, but it could not to any extent. Under the present mode of cleaning the city with machinery, reports of the Superintendent of the Board of Health show that during the present season 192 men were sufficient to do the work over the whole city. If the new arrangement, with greatly improved machinery, which has been approved by the Board of Health, and is now awaiting the approval of the Finance Committee of Councils, should be adopted, this force would be cut down to a still smaller number. Therefore the aggregate of laborers displaced is so small that it forms but a trifling objection to the undertaking.

I could suggest many other benefits which would result by co-operation with the heads of the several departments, especially the correction of an evil which has frequently attracted the attention of the Grand Jurors and the Judges of the Court, i. e., the overcrowding of the Prisons and Almshouses. If Councils would prepare for and locate Prisons and Almshouses in the neighborhood of the House of Correction, and make small appropriations every year to the Managers for materials not found on the property, they could by a very small outlay to the city have these much needed buildings erected in the course of a few years by this now unused labor. There is a building at present on the institution grounds that in thirty days' time might be put in working order as a prison holding two hundred inmates.

As the city will (within a very few years) be compelled, at much larger outlay, to provide more amply for her Prisons and Almshouses, the matter deserves the immediate attention of Councils.

A farther desirable use could be made of the labor of the inmates of the House of Correction in the opening of new roads in the Park, grading, quarrying and breaking stone, and this labor would be equivalent to, and supersede the need of an appropriation from Councils.

Still another important and expensive work that could be accomplished by this labor without any drain on the City Treasury, if approved by Councils, is the digging and building of the new culvert from Manayunk to the Delaware, to prevent the defilement of the Schuylkill water by the 21st Ward factories, as already suggested by the Department.

Hoping these few hints may be of service to your valuable association,

I am yours respectfully,

SAM'L KILPATRICK.

COFFEE HOUSES.

DEAR SIR: When we consider that once Coffee-houses were as common almost in London as taverns, we should not despair of seeing in our country a similar condition of things. It is not the love of liquor that first tempts men to the tavern — it is a desire for a stimulant. When lager beer first came up in the country, it "took" because men wanted a lighter stimulant than liquor, or even ordinary ale or beer. Convince them that coffee is better and cheaper, and it will drive hundreds of tavern keepers to selling coffee instead of intoxicating drinks. To start the movement requires a good deal of work and careful attention, a good conscientious Superintendent to be selected, and proper locations to be chosen. Where liquor saloons most abound is a pretty sure indication of the need of a Coffee-house.

I believe any earnest man could get all the following he wanted in Philadelphia. Money in a good cause is never wanting there; besides, money given in this cause is *invested*, not spent. In Liverpool, and other places in England, 8 and 10 per cent. dividends are being regularly paid. In London they are going still further. A Coffee Concert Saloon Company has been organized. In this city I have a person who exhibits a stereopticon four or five nights a week in the poor quarters of the city, at a nominal rate of admission; this being charged because a thing given for nothing is never valued, and causes a man to lose his feeling of independence. At these entertainments we have singing, in which all are requested to join. No religion is introduced. The poor have an astonishing aversion to what they call "pious shops," and ridicule those who attend such, and ridicule soon kills. If a man feels like going to church that is a separate affair. We seek to wean him from bad habits, and to give him innocent amusement. This is the first step upwards; after that he can mount still higher if he will.

Yours very truly,

JOSEPH W. DREXEL.

THE MICHIGAN STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

COLDWATER, MICH., June 19, 1880.

To the Editor of the Monthly Register:

In your June number I find you speak in complimentary terms of the "Reformatory" at Coldwater, Mich. Please remember that this is a school only to which *dependent* children, not criminals, are sent by the Probate Court, which simply passes on the dependency of the child. No child is admitted by reason of delinquency. No taint of crime in any matter attaches to any child here more than to those in our district schools. Criminal children in this state are sent to the Reform School for Boys in Lansing, and to the Reform School for Girls, now being constructed in Adrian. The Michigan State Public School, founded in 1871, was the first ever established by any government for the care, education and placing in family homes of dependent children. Michigan holds it to be the interest and duty of a state to secure the education of all classes, beginning with the dependents and completing in the Michigan University, the entire course being free education secured by taxation of property. The Michigan system we deem the most radically right of any. It is successful and popular with our people. This school was opened in May, 1874. It has now about 300 children of the average age of 8 years, and also about 500 placed out in families, making a family of about 800, which we supervise during minority.

Yours truly,

C. D. RANDALL.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

FROM ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BENEFICENT BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

The Managers are happy to say that Bedford street continues orderly, and has at no time been more so; and that the wretched district of which it is the centre is also steadily improving. It is in this gratifying fact—the one object aimed at in the organization of the Association—that the stockholders must find the best return for their investments; and, certainly, if the prevention of scores or hundreds of murders, and manslaughters, and rapes, and the saving of a generation of the youth of the street from sights and sounds that must have rendered them infamous in all after life, are things to be valued, they have been already amply compensated for their outlays. The service, too, done the Bedford Street Mission, in enabling it to carry out its charitable designs efficiently and satisfactorily—which would have been impossible without the aid of the Association—ought to be regarded as an additional and valuable remuneration to the stockholders.

The Board take great pleasure, further, in stating that the success of the Association in its work, and the happy influence of "The Society for Organizing Charity" in directing the attention of our citizens to the great duty of elevating the condition of the hitherto dependent and degraded poor, are bringing co-laborers into the field, from whose efforts the Board anticipate like excellent results with those that have attended their own. One gentleman has already bought two properties on St. Mary street and is thinking of the purchase of more; and there is a rumor of an important reformatory work being undertaken in another part of the Bedford street quarter.

LODGE FOR WAYFARERS.

The last report of the Boston Overseers of the Poor proves the wisdom of establishing the above refuge, and is a forcible suggestion of the advisability of similar "Casual Wards" in every large city. The report says:

"The crowds that thronged for years the station-houses, disturbing their discipline, tainting their atmosphere, and interfering with the more legitimate duties of the department have disappeared. Tramps who shirk work no longer infest our streets by day or night, and to judge by the account given of himself by each applicant at the Lodge upon his admission, they are for the most part persons seeking honestly for employment. By the assistance of the Industrial Aid opposite, they are in the best way of finding it by testifying their readiness to earn their own living by performing with diligence and good temper the easy and healthful tasks assigned them. Thoroughly cleansed and well nourished, they are much more likely to find what they want, good places and fair pay, than if they presented themselves on the labor market in a worn and tattered condition. Occasionally their clothing is utterly ragged, and the kindly disposed often send to the Lodge, for the benefit of the wayfarer, either new, strong, cheap garments, or such still serviceable clothing as they have no longer any use for themselves. The cost of the Lodge, partly defrayed by their work, is not great: their numbers are not so considerable as to interfere with our own labor, and our citizens at their dwellings or in the streets are no longer disturbed by them.

The arrangements made in the autumn for destroying the vermin by subjecting the garments of the wayfarer to super-heated steam in a tank has answered expectation. Twenty minutes' exposure to the heat kills all animal life to its very spores, and an hour in the adjacent drying-room removes every particle of moisture. The statement given elsewhere of the cost may be of use to other cities disposed to try our methods."

The Lodge furnished during 1879, 14,648 lodgings, an average of over forty a night, which sufficed for the needs of the whole city. The number of meals given was 33,984 costing five cents each. The work to be performed by every applicant, in payment for meals and lodging, is the sawing of wood, 1,134 cords having been cut and sold during the year, and the demand for the cut wood exceeded the supply. A large part of it is sold to the public buildings and public schools, so promoting economy of the public funds. Some of the wood was cut by the resident poor of the city, who, for two days' work received \$2 worth of groceries. Such institutions are greatly needed in Philadelphia, and would be of ultimate economy. The total expense of the above Lodge was \$7,345.09, exclusive of what was received back for labor.

PROVIDENCE WOOD YARD.

Out-door City Relief.—By reference to the expenditures for out-door relief, we find that for the twenty-three months prior to the establishment of the yard, the expense for out-door relief was \$43,623.70, and for the twenty-three months covering the opera-

tions of the yard, \$13,561.96, a difference in favor of the latter period of \$30,061.74—which wipes out the apparent balance against the yard, and leaves a balance of \$23,165.22, which is so much saved by the labor system.

There have been employed at the yard 256 men at fifty cents per day, for varying periods. The amount paid them was \$10,824.38. The largest number was to have been expected in the winter months. The labor here, being designed to supersede out-door relief, no man who was a resident of the city, having dependents in necessitous circumstances, has been refused work.

The compensation, it is true, is small, but the principle has been, not to pay such wages as would tend to make the situation permanent, but cause the laborer to be on the lookout for more remunerative employment elsewhere. There is no doubt as to the effect of this system on the chronic shiftless, who used to make the necessities of their families an excuse for relief, with a plea that they could find nothing to do. Such have been forced to labor when they knew they would receive no aid unless they did so.

Many who have heretofore received aid, have never shown themselves in this office since the yard has been in operation; they have either taken care of themselves, or left the city for other places where they were not confronted by labor. In all points of view I think the results have justified the experiment, and demonstrated the sound policy and wisdom of the new system over the old.

The establishment of the yard, with a general understanding on the part of the citizens that those seeking food should be provided for, conditioned on labor for an hour therein, at once drove the professional prowling beggars from the city, and we have been remarkably free from them since.—*Providence Press*.

LONDON CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

This Society received in donations and subscriptions during the past year (at \$5 per £ sterling):

For general purposes, - - - - -	\$31,708.60
For special cases, - - - - -	4,684.25
For relief only, - - - - -	3,573.98
Total - - - - -	\$39,966.83
From sales of books, <i>Reporters</i> , loans returned, etc. - - -	8,029.06
In aid of District Committees, where poverty is in excess of ability to meet it, - - - - -	19,671.44
For Provident Dispensaries Fund, - - - - -	1,058.48
	\$68,725.81
The expenses of its Central Office, including the publication of the <i>Reporter</i> , for the year, were - - - - -	\$16,040.73

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Of the London Charity Organization Society, held last April; speeches were made from which we take the following extract:

Mr. J. K. Hollond, M. P., said:—"He thought every one must feel that the most sure way of benefiting the great mass of their fellow-creatures was to instil certain habits into them; and they could not do them more good than by stimulating thrift and foresight, and by giving them knowledge. Therefore, if charity was so administered as not to do these things, but the opposite of them, if it tended to bring about unthrift and want of careful foresight, and if it tended to keep people in ignorance of the true condition on which their life was based, it did them harm. It was to him a melancholy discovery some years ago, that the charity given away in London was probably doing more harm than good.

"When they considered the amount of this charity, the way in which it was distributed, the number of good and earnest persons who were going about among the poor distributing charity and endeavoring to administer to their necessities, it was painful to feel that a great deal of this did harm and was positively wrong. From this people had been led to the conclusion that it would be better there was no charity at all. It was scarcely necessary to say, that was not the conclusion to which the Charity Organization Society had arrived. They believed that there was a sphere for charity; that charity might be so administered as to do a great deal of good; that it might be so administered as to foster improved habits in the people, to stimulate them to thrift and to give them a greater knowledge of the conditions under which they had to live.

"This the Society solved in this way: They said that no charity should be given but such as was given after due investigation. It was curious to see how this business-like principle seemed to fall on most unwilling ears in the case of a great many persons; though, after all, it was the principle on which they acted in every other department of life. If they did a particular thing to gain a particular end, they took care that that end was attained; but the misfortune in the matter of charity was that people had not done this. They considered it quite sufficient to feel charitably disposed in order that the charity they gave might do good. But the fact was there was all the difference between charity which proceeded from the feeling of a man who thought he ought to give something to his neighbor and the charity of the man who took pains to ascertain whether what he gave to his neighbor would be really beneficial to him.

"One thing that struck him was this. The great injustice they were doing to the industrious workingman, in administering charity improperly. Let them see what the industrious workingman felt. He worked hard: he saved all he could, belonged to clubs, and looked after his children; and he saw his neighbor who did none of these things, but spent his money in the beer-shop, receiving relief without working for it at all. This must produce a great deal of demoralization among the laboring class; and many who belonged to the industrious section of it must often have been tempted by charity to belong to the idle section."

The Rev. J. R. Diggle, who supported the motion, said:—"He stood there that day in a threefold character. First, he belonged to a profession which numbered in its own body the largest number of relieving officers, outside the ordinary legalized ones, that were in the country. There was no body of men to whom were given such large funds for charitable purposes as the clergy of all denominations; and he was bound to say, his experience, as a clergyman, was, that although the clergy of London desired to be truly useful in their own profession, they could not achieve that usefulness without disassociating themselves, as far as possible, from the popular idea of themselves, as universal relieving guardians; that is to say, that the clergyman's profession was a distinct profession from that of administering relief to his parishioners."

NOTES.

Employment.—Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, of London, who is an acknowledged authority upon the employment question in that city, says, in reply to an inquiry as to his views on the means of obtaining employment for applicants:

"My reply is, that there are no means but the workshops and the newspapers. In the former, men and women go direct to their market and get the advantage of every shift and change in the tide, in exact proportion to the activity with which, to use a familiar phrase, 'they paddle their own canoe.' In the latter, they find such notices as employers, under pressure and a keen demand for labor, or to save themselves trouble, find it desirable to give. A few odds and ends jobs may be made known to the offices of the Charity Organization Committees, but to the extent that such offices are systematically used they have a natural tendency to put the relations of employers and employed on a philanthropic rather than a commercial basis, and at the same time to impair the natural organization of labor within its own lines.

"As to advertising, great judgment is required both in the place and the form of advertisement, to avoid it being either sheer waste or an ultimate disappointment. To do real justice to special needs one requires the experience and advice of an advertising agent.

"As to domestic service, good servants are in command of the market, and as a rule only the intermittent and indifferent class come within the lines of Charity Committees.

"As to housework for women, a really carefully tabulated list of trustworthy persons who go out on occasional work, or to take charge of houses, might be useful, but if there is any keen demand a self-supporting registry would be better, in my opinion, than a mere list at our offices.

"As to operation through district visitors, members of committees, and others, my experience is a very painful one, and the easy, ignorant way in which amateur almoners send people after places about which they know very little is productive, as a rule, of much waste of time and temper on both sides. . . .

"To end, however, as I began by saying, the shop, the yard, the paper, and the street window, which is in its way the intermittent laborers' labor glass, are the most effective instruments after all."

M. ALPHONSE KARR, who has just published some curious information on the subject of the indigent classes, asks whether poverty is the daughter, the sister, or the mother of luxury. In the department of the Creuse, he observes, there are no manufactures; all the people are poor; but there is only one indigent person to each 330 inhabitants. In the Rhone, which is one of the richest of French departments (containing Lyons), there is one pauper to every nine inhabitants; in the Dordogne, which resembles the Creuse, only one pauper to 388 inhabitants; in the Nord, the richest of French departments (which contains Lille), there is one pauper to every six inhabitants. M. Karr adds that two points are clear—1st. There is not enough to eat for all; 2d. That every one requires more than formerly. It must also be noted that, whereas such articles of luxury as coats of superfine cloth are becoming cheaper and cheaper, the necessities of life, such as bread, meat and lodgings, are becoming dearer.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A RECENT trip of the City of Chester, of the Inman Line, from New York to Liverpool, was enlivened by the wit of a Washington girl, who was the favorite passenger. In the same steamer was a young English snob, who wore a suit of clothes of very large plaid, with a fatigue cap to match, a single eyeglass, thick soled boots, spotted shirt, and loud necktie. He had that exasperating drawl peculiar to Mark Twain and English snobs. "Aw, yaas," said he, in conversation with the Washington girl, "I have seen considerable of your country; I have been to New Yawk, Chicago, Omaha, and other places, and it is a gwate country; but you don't seem to have any gentry in America." "What do you call gentry?" asked the lady. "Aw, why people, you know, who live without work." "Oh, yes; we have such people," answered the lady, "but we don't call them gentry." "Aw, then, what do you call them, pway?" "We call them twamps." "Aw!"

It appears from *Les Petite s Affiches* that the trade of blind man is not a bad one after all. We translate the following from a recent number: "Wanted by a poor blind man, an infirm woman, unable to work, who would guide him; she would have two francs a day without her board, or he would divide his day's earnings with her; or else a little boy suffering from some affliction, ten or twelve years of age, and able to read." Application is to be made to Mr. Pierre, rue—or boulevard—his stations or beats.—*The Parisian*.

In a report of the London Mendicacy Society, a conversation is given which was overheard between two of that class of begging women who sit in the streets, got up to look as deplorable as possible, with a child in the lap: "How much rent did you give for your baby?" "A shillin'." "Then you've been done, or babies is riz. I only gives sixpence for mine, and they feeds 'em and Godfrey's cordials 'em, and all afore I goes out, into the bargain."

WITH regard to charity, the *Sunday School Times* says: "It is not right for us to give or to refuse to give merely because we feel generous or stingy for the time being; nor yet because it is a peculiarly tempting, or a peculiarly unattractive appeal for aid which now presents itself. We ought to have some plan of giving, some recognized basis of duty in the meeting of every call on us for assistance. We are the Lord's stewards."

FRIENDS who know of any exceptionally good work doing anywhere in the world for the practical improvement of society and the elevation of the depressed or degraded, will earn our hearty thanks by contributing printed or manuscript reports of such work for notice in the REGISTER and for use in our Library.

A BOSTON merchant, who was entering a restaurant, was asked by a tired and dusty man for a little help to get something to eat. He directed a waiter to give him twenty-five cents' worth and charge it to his check. When he asked what the hungry man had taken, his answer was "Five glasses of lager."

MR. WHITELAW REID, of the New York *Tribune*, has since March, 1879, sent West and secured comfortable homes for 397 homeless waifs picked up on the streets of New York.

ANY of our readers who desire to preserve the MONTHLY REGISTER may procure the "Peerless" file at this office for 60 cents each.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1880.

[No. 11

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Directors. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1602 Chestnut Street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
- By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and induce to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Henry C. Lea, Esq., No. 426 Walnut street, or to the Central Office, No. 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL OCTOBER 15TH.

Monday,	September 13,	4½ P. M.,	Board of Directors.
Tuesday,	September 21,	5 P. M.,	Assembly Com. of Arrangements.
Monday,	October 4,	8 P. M.,	Assembly.*
Monday,	October 11,	10 A. M.,	Women's General Conference.*
Monday,	October 11,	8 P. M.,	Board of Directors.

*For place of meeting see *Ledger* of that date.

EDITORIAL.

REMOVAL.

Our friends will please take notice that our Central Office is REMOVED to No. 1602 CHESTNUT STREET, where we shall at all times be gratified to see them, as well as all other workers in any of the various fields of benevolent enterprise, from home and abroad. As ours is emphatically an institution of the citizens of Philadelphia at large, created by them for the express purpose of promoting all needed reforms in charitable economy and administration, we desire that the public shall avail itself to the fullest extent of the facilities we can offer; not only in the information gathered under our extended system of investigation and registration, concerning some 10,000 dependent families living in our midst; but also in opportunities afforded by our Library, and by the researches of our several Committees in the various departments of Charitable science, which they are assiduously studying in order to discover "the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation, and ascertaining the causes of pauperism with a view to its prevention." We propose that our Society shall be a centre of benevolent impulse, investigation and information, receiving from and disseminating to all as occasion offers, until no more civic reforms are needed, or some more willing and efficient agency shall supersede us.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

As a means of cultivating thrift and provident habits, the subject of Co-operative Societies deserves much consideration. Their success in the North of England is a fair warrant to try the experiment also in this country, where the results should be more profitable. In the last five years these Societies have increased in Great Britain at an annual average of 40, their trade has increased an average of about \$5,500,000 per annum, and their members numbered at last accounts over 560,000. At a recent Annual Congress in two counties (Durham and Northumberland) where there are 56,000 members, surplus earnings of \$1,100,000 were drawn out. "What a relief, not only to the members, but to the taxpayers outside, such a fact implies." But for this attractive means of thrift, many of these persons would have been, as of old, dependent on the poor rates for partial support. In Gloucester alone the local societies have paid in quarterly dividends to members \$200,000 in 17 years. In a village in Oxford, a few workmen started with \$200, and in less than ten years did a business of \$110,000, with \$10,000 annual profit.

The methods are simple, and to obtain the benefits is easier than to lay up money in a Savings Bank. A member pays a few dollars as a first instalment on his shares, and his other instalments, and his dividends come from his own expenditures for food and clothes. He has only to deal with his own Society, and every three months he receives a dividend proportioned to his purchases, and also 5 per cent. interest in his stock, and in a few years his shares yield him hundreds, and often thousands of dollars. Many who never would have kept a Savings-Bank account are made independent.

The educational influences of these Co-operative Societies are said to be equal to their economical results, and the organization of these great purchasing and manufacturing associations has called forth much latent mental and moral ability among the people.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES, Member of Parliament, is in the United States, and has intimated that during his visit he will be willing to meet the members of the Charity Organization Society for conference and counsel. The immediate reason of his visit to this country lies in a scheme of co-operative farming, for the promotion of English emigration and for the consequent improvement of the working classes of Great Britain. The Company he represents has secured some 400,000 acres of land in Eastern Tennessee, the most diversified, salubrious and fertile, and yet undeveloped part of the United States, on which it is proposed to settle English colonists with a view to their proprietorship in the land. Mr. Hughes needs no introduction to Americans. Years ago he delighted our youth with his breezy, manly story of "School Days at Rugby", during the famous Dr. Arnold's head-mastership. But it is as an unwavering friend of the Union, during our civil war, that he won the admiration and love of our people. It may not be as generally known that he is one of the acutest observers of industrial life and social problems in Parliament. All over England he appears on the rostrum as the friend of the workingman, the fearless, candid student of social conditions, the legislator whose career is ingenuous, philanthropic and able. He will have an enthusiastic welcome among all Charity Organizationists, and our own Society will receive from him, no doubt, a new impulse internally, and a fresh influence on the community externally. Due notice will be given of his visit to our Society.

OUT-DOOR PUBLIC RELIEF.

The City Councils of Philadelphia have withheld, this year, every dollar of the out-door relief heretofore administered through the Guardians of the Poor, and during the half-year now expired we have not heard of a single case of hardship or suffering to the poor caused by the new depart-

ture. On the contrary, we see many evidences of material benefit to the poor in their having been deprived of this aid to an idle and vicious life: for, as the Guardians' Visitors had an average of about 4,000 families each on their relief lists, it was manifestly a physical impossibility for them to know enough of the circumstances of each applicant, to avoid dispensing the great bulk of the appropriation to those who were most loud, and brazen, and deceitful, in their claims.

We find that similar views of the inutility of public-poor-relief are gaining ground elsewhere. Under the influence of the London Charity Organization Society, we note the following reduction of out door relief in Kensington district of that city:

"The guardians of that parish had, during the last ten years, been gradually reducing out-relief, so that the amount expended by them, in 1879, was a tenth part only of that expended in 1870; and whilst in 1870 the proportion of out-door to in-door paupers was 22 to 18, it was now 20 to 80. If boarded-out pauper children were excluded from the out-relief list, the present ratio would appear still smaller. At present the principal recipients of out-relief were old persons who had had it for many years, and as these gradually died off, out-relief would become restricted to medicine and food ordered by the medical officer and to other temporary assistance in cases where the paupers could not, from some cause or other, be removed to the workhouse or infirmary."

"This gradual extinction of out-relief in Kensington had had a most wholesome and stimulating effect upon the poor there. Previous to 1870 out-relief was lavishly granted, and much pauperization was the result. Now, though the population had largely increased (from 121,000 to 160,000), the total number of paupers was much less than one-third of what it was in 1870. This reduction of out-relief could not have been made without much opposition and hardship, unless voluntary charity, in co-operation with the guardians, had existed, capable of helping applicants for out-relief, whom it would have been severe to have compelled to enter the workhouse."

"This out-relief system as at present administered placed the improvident person in a better position than the provident, for while the latter debarred himself from luxuries, so as to make provision for the future, the improvident enjoyed his luxuries, and then was provided with money to spend, this money being raised by forced levies upon the industrious and provident. That the persons who received this relief were of the improvident class could be seen from a statement derived from a trustworthy source, that the money received from the out-relief pay-table often went direct to the public house."

"The restriction of out-relief was seen to restrict pauperism, to encourage industry, and increase providence."

"Mr. Hedley (of the Local Government Board) said that, as one who was officially engaged in the active work of the Poor Law in London, he would always be glad to co-operate with the Charity Organization Society in every way, because he believed that the work of the Society had had a great deal to do with the present comparatively satisfactory condition of London in regard to pauperism. Those who had watched the statistics of pauperism knew that the number of paupers had decreased in the last ten years very greatly, notwithstanding that the population of London had increased at the rate of 50,000 a year."

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

AUGUST MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

The General Secretary reported that there was no further interruption of the work of the Ward Associations, and that a few of the Superintendents were maintaining exceptionally judicious and thorough work. A spasmodic increase of beggary was found to exist in the business portions of the 5th ward, especially annoying the mercantile offices in that locality; but it was chiefly owing to the failure of those applied to, to refer applicants in every case to the Ward Association, and thus encouraging them to continue their depredations on the community. An ample and easy remedy is offered by the Society; and if the victims will not avail themselves of it, but treat directly with the beggars as if no Organized Charity existed, the fault is not ours. The streets will soon be rid of these vicious pests if they meet everywhere only a reference to some approved and well administered Charity. Interviews were had with several City officials looking toward reforming the existing difficulties in the Departments having charge of correctional and charitable institutions, and the prospects of securing such reforms are encouraging. The Managers of the House of Correction have applied for an appropriation to enable them to commence the erection of additional prison accommodation on their premises with the labor of their inmates, which is a very important step in the right direction.

Mr. J. R. Sypher and Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland were appointed to represent the Society at the Sixth Annual Convention of the Directors of the Poor and the Board of Public Charities of this State, which meets at Harrisburg, September 7.

The Charter of the Society was formally accepted, and the By-Laws and Officers of the Society were adopted and continued as the By-Laws and Officers of the Corporation. The Secretary was instructed to have the Corporation duly registered according to law.

The General Secretary was also instructed to request Mr. Thomas Hughes, M. P., of London, to visit the Society during his stay in the United States, to address the members upon the subject of Co-operative measures among the working classes, to which interest he has given much labor and study.

[Answer has been received from Mr. Hughes that he will be in Philadelphia shortly, and hopes then to arrange for the proposed meeting.]

Messrs. Kellogg, Sypher and Evans were appointed a Committee to wait upon Mr. Hughes, with power to settle the details for the expected address.

ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, Sept. 6, 1880.

The Assembly held its first regular monthly meeting of the autumn at the usual place this evening, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding, supported by Joshua L. Baily and Philip C. Garrett, Vice Presidents. The minutes of the June meeting being read and approved,

Dr. Henry T. Child opened the subject assigned for discussion, viz.: "THE RELATIONS OF HYGIENE TO CRIME AND POVERTY."

He thought this matter so important that no judicious relief could be given to the poor without considering it, for so large a proportion of the cases needing relief originated in some violation of the laws of health; and the Society finds this branch of social economy, among the first and most important of its labors. Every class of the community, even the highest, needs to be educated in the principles of Hygiene, how much more the poor to be taught those rules based upon the axiom that cleanliness is next to godliness. The poor labor under many disadvantages in the privation of the means of general and personal cleanliness; often for instance having no water in their houses. Sickness causes much of the suffering and much of the crime that exists, and that in its turn is caused by uncleanly surroundings. Thus the vast ignorance and indifference of the poor on all these matters, renders it of prime necessity that our Visitors, Directors, and Superintendents, should inform and educate the families under their supervision. Our Society is peculiarly adapted to carry proper instruction on these points to the poor, having in its wide scope and large personal adhesion advantages that no other association possesses; and it is the peculiar duty of every Ward Board to pay special attention to these topics, and do all in their power to promote sanitary modes of living. What is done for the poor in this line will be reflected from all grades of society, for although most of the victims of the violation of sanitary laws are among the poor, still society is so interwoven that the rich and refined receive the seeds of diseases caused by such violations directly by personal and unavoidable contact as well as by living in proximity to localities where the germs of infectious diseases originate. Such advice and education is far nobler work than any alms-giving. Children should be trained in healthy ways and principles; and it is incumbent on every worker to see what more they can do to thus elevate the poor and promote the vigorous well-being both of the children and bread-winners. An eminent New Englander says that if these and parallel social dangers could be removed we could look forward to a time when crime and poverty, and, perhaps, disease, would cease to be an appreciable burden to society. Certainly the will to bring that day will bear us very far toward it.

Dr. James W. Walk, of the 15th ward, quoted from the "London Lancet", that sickness is and always has been the greatest cause of poverty, as we may all know by realizing the disturbance caused in our own well-ordered families by it. But there are many families that are always at the bottom of the social scale, always struggling for a bare subsistence, and with nothing to fall back upon. When sickness comes to these, they at once resort to begging, and we cannot be deaf to the sufferings of the sick, although the disease is caused by drink and misconduct. He had found the Sick-diet Kitchens very efficacious, because affording wholesome food properly cooked; and it is a charity that is not easily imposed upon, as sickness, to the practised eye, is not easily feigned; and the sick and helpless need such relief, no matter how low and abandoned. The sick are often in a condition to be induced to reform, but they can't reform until restored. Again, these kitchens should be multiplied, because the sick-relief furnished by the Guardians is so very unsatisfactory to the poor themselves as being unequal to what common humanity demands they should have.

The Resolutions presented by the Committee on "Hygiene and Sanitary Measures," were then unanimously adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That it is a portion of the duty of this Society, through the Ward Associations, to use all reasonable efforts to promote personal and general hygiene, the want of which is a fruitful cause of crime and poverty.

Resolved, That a systematic plan should be established to bring into use all the means at command for the prompt removal of all nuisances which are detrimental to health.

The Committee on "The Care of the Defective Classes" then submitted through the Rev. Dr. Wayland an interesting paper, which they offered not so much as a report, as an abstract of the points to which public opinion should be directed. The "Defective Classes" are held to include the Blind, Deaf-mutes, Insane, Idiots and Bodily-crippled. Careful inquiry estimates the numbers of these classes in this city to be of—

Blind,	about	700;	and in the State,	1 in each	1800
Deaf-mutes,	"	750;	"	1	1500
Insane,	"	1600;	"	1	500
Idiots,	"	950;	"	1	900

No data exists for estimating the crippled.

The provision now made for these classes, and the terms of admission to the several Institutions, are fully set forth in the Society's MANUAL AND DIRECTORY, and may be learned at the Central Office.

The treatment of these is a professional and technical matter, but the obvious ends to be aimed at are—

1. The relief of their suffering on the ground of humanity and charity.
2. The relief of their families and the public from the suffering and cost entailed by the presence and care of these unfortunates.

3. The greatest possible improvement of their mental and physical condition.

4. Their instruction and employment in suitable pursuits, both to lessen the burden upon their friends and the public, and to let them feel the elevating influence of labor and of at least an approach to self-support.

Productive industry is a main step in the improvement of the depressed and hopeless. The mental and bodily faculties even of the Defective are susceptible of almost indefinite improvement. Lord Fitzroy Somerset (afterwards Lord Raglan) when Military Secretary to the Duke of Wellington lost his right arm at Waterloo. Fearing that the casualty would unfit him for his Secretaryship, he began, the day after the amputation, to practice writing with his left hand; and as soon as he could leave his room, he resumed his duties; and was thenceforth so skillful in writing, fishing, shooting, driving and carving, that persons often erroneously remarked "How fortunate that he saved his right arm." A member of the Committee recently found, in a near town, a man who lost his right arm forty-one years ago, and has always earned his living by chopping, driving, and other manual work, doing as good a day's work as any one in town. Vidal, a blind sculptor, has achieved prominence in Paris, where for twelve years he has wrought in bronze; and his bull, panther, gazelle, and dying horse, occupy honored places in the choicest galleries.

The present minute division of labor opens many forms of industry well adapted to the Defective; and the closing of some of the senses often increases the intensity of the others. Employment for the blind is successfully furnished at the Working Homes for the Blind among us.

An increase of facilities for the care of the Defective is required by immediate and imperative needs, either by enlarging existing institutions or by removing improved cases into families or other partial and inexpensive supervision. In Rhode Island, many insane at the State-Farm, committed as "Incurable", had been cured by the restorative influence of open air work.

To remove the causes, we must remove vice, intemperance, ignorance and selfishness. The cramming of children for show-examinations, the dreadful ignorance of nurses, the war, hard times, and other oft-recurring excitements are also contributing causes.

Again, how often those in infancy, seemingly hardly worth saving, have proved bright ornaments of the race. The reflections of Macaulay on the leaders at the battle of Neerwinden are in point:

"In this battle, two poor sickly beings, who, in a rude stage of society, would have been regarded as too puny to bear any part in combats, were the souls of the two great armies. In some heathen countries they would have been exposed while infants. In Christendom, they would, six centuries earlier, have been sent to some quiet cloister. But their lot had fallen on a time when men had discovered that the strength of the muscles is far inferior in value to the strength of the mind. It is probable that, among the hundred and twenty thousand soldiers who were marshalled around Neerwinden, under all the standards of Western Europe, the two feeblest in body were the hunch-backed dwarf who urged on the fiery onset of France, and the asthmatic skeleton who covered the slow retreat of England."

The question being asked, whether a few large or many smaller institutions for Imbeciles were to be preferred, Dr. C. E. Cadwalader said that authorities differ on this matter. In Pennsylvania, the chief ground of procedure is the difficulty of procuring sufficient appropriations from the Legislature for more than one institution, and so the effort is to make that one as effective as possible. In regard to the Insane it is also noted that many counties withhold their patients from the State Hospitals on mere economical grounds. They can keep them more cheaply at home, in local almshouses or otherwise, regardless of the welfare of the patients. It is a serious question how to make it an object to these prudent county officers to send them to the properly equipped Hospitals of the State. The chronic and incurable insane might be placed in cheaply constructed detached asylums and the State pay half the expense, thus reducing the burden to the counties. In Ohio, the State assumes the guardianship of all the Insane, claiming that they should be the Wards of the State. Even there, however, owing to the constant increase in the number of this class, there are often 800 in County Poor-houses.

Mr. William Chapin, the veteran Principal of the Blind Institution, said that thirty-seven years of his life had been bestowed upon the blind. Twenty-five years ago, observing how many failed in life after leaving the institution, he suggested The Workingmen's Home; not as a charity, but a place where to find industrial occupation. Many blind pupils were able to maintain themselves by their mechanical and musical talents, still a large percentage went to the wall for lack of opportunity. Since then an Industrial Home for blind women has been established. The object is to enable the beneficiaries to earn, at least in part, their own support. The English institutions are far behind our own as regards education, but they are superior as workshops. The United States' government has appropriated \$250,000, the income of which pays for books for the blind, which are printed in Kentucky, and supplied to the several institutions of the country.

As to the Insane, Mr. Chapin described the Willard Asylum, at Ovid, New York, accommodating more than, probably, any other asylum in the world—about 1600 patients. Besides the administration building, one ward held 600 patients; and the rest were placed, 200 each, in separate groups of buildings; comfortable two-story structures well removed from the central building, and in which the patients lived like a family; the only general supplies being from the bakery and the laundry. The buildings cost about \$400, against \$800 to \$3,000 per capita as elsewhere. The cost of board to the counties (formerly \$3.00) was \$2.60, the State providing for the salaries and buildings only. Much labor of the patients was utilized on the farm. The inmates raised more than fifty

acres of wheat, and much cattle were raised and slaughtered on the premises.

Dr. Cadwalader said the very best county institutions were unfit places for the custody of the Insane. He asked for the influence of public opinion to support the State Board, who have a thankless and difficult duty to perform, and encounter prejudice and private interest to such a degree that the very existence of the Board is threatened by ignorant and self-willed county officials.

Mr. H. L. Hall, the blind Superintendent of the Working Home for Blind Men, considered the number of the blind greatly underestimated by the census. Less is known about them than about any other defective class. They need help to help themselves. He thought that ninety per cent. of them are willing to work ten hours a day, and a large proportion if they have work will be self-sustaining. There is nothing like pauperism in his institution; not a single inmate guilty of begging. Characters differ as much as among seeing people: there are first class workers and so all the way down. Nine in the institution are from the Almshouse, but an amazing change is wrought through the chance to assert their self-respect, and they want not alms but employment. Otherwise they are doomed to enforced idleness and dependence, and how demoralizing that is! They only ask a chance to work. Alone they cannot compete with the seeing. They need the institution to provide employment, to let them earn their bread and butter. He never has to urge his men to work; they will sometimes keep it up till ten o'clock at night. He hoped for much from the Society, and urged upon it the special claim of the blind. This is the only institution of the kind in the country, and is conducted on pure business principles, buying and selling at ruling prices, and making, chiefly, brooms, carpets, mattresses, and brushes.

In view of the removal of the Society to other quarters, a vote of thanks to Joshua L. Baily for the use of the Lecture Hall and his many other kindnesses to the Society was passed and the meeting adjourned. The attendance was fair for the season, and the exercises showed that the thought bestowed by the members upon the important matters considered in our Assembly is leading towards practical results.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The work of the "LONDON SCHOOL SHIP SOCIETY" (whose Superintendent writes to us as below), is the reclaiming of some of the neglected boys who wander through the streets of London, and whose offences, committed chiefly through ignorance, have subjected them to a sentence of reformatory discipline. We insert it as suggestive of similar efforts practicable here, and which would not only be of vast benefit to many boys, but do something towards supplying the increasing lack of trained sailors for our merchant marine:

SCHOOLSHIP "CORNWALL,"
Off Purfleet, Essex, August 19, 1880.

DEAR SIR: * * * * * Our results are over 90 per cent. doing well. I find I have a few old boys in New York City, and two or three in the United States Navy. I trust they are doing justice to our training. The ship has been employed 21 years in reformatory work, and 1,677 boys have been received. Our average on board is about 250 and we have had as many as 300 at one time. Ours is a Protestant School, but there is a Roman Catholic one at Liverpool. The charge we make is two shillings and sixpence a week, paid by counties and boroughs and the parents, if any, contribute, and the government makes up to eight shillings and sixpence a week in all. The ship is lent by the Admiralty. We have a large correspondence with old boys and a very large number visit it during the year; many of them stay aboard and enjoy a few days in their old home. We have a shipping agent in London, whose duty it is to ship boys, look out for them going home, and board and lodge them if they wish. Lying as we do in the Thames, we often see old boys passing up and down from various parts of the world. I do believe we are doing a real religious work, and though it is only as it were a drop in the ocean, yet it is not difficult to see that much good results from the system in force here.

With compliments, believe me,
Yours, most faithfully,

ARTHUR MORRELL,
Capt. R. N.

MR. CHAS. D. KELLOGG, Gen'l Sec'y, etc.

VAGRANTS.

"CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY"
15 Buckingham St., Adelphi,
London, W. C., 5th August, 1880.

"DEAR SIR:

"Pressure of work has prevented my replying before to your letter of the 23d June. * * * * * Our officers give no bread except in extreme cases (and then it must be eaten on the spot); but if the applicant wishes to have his case taken up, he is sent to the Casual Ward or to a Refuge during the investigation, which is conducted like an ordinary resident case. All vagrants are referred to the relieving officers. It is for this purpose that a list of the work-houses and casual wards is given on the back of the paper, entitled 'Word by the Way', which in London is largely circulated. Mendicants are handed over to the police, and taken before the magistrate.

"As to the special question you raise—How to deal with the able-bodied idler, who is not guilty of overt criminal acts, but who refuses to work if he can live by begging?—it would be well to say one or two words as to how the subject is viewed here. Penal laws, it is said, have had no effect: public opinion will not enforce them; the people will not consider begging and the idleness it springs from a crime: it is useless to run counter to their prejudices; this will only lead to re-action. It is best, therefore, to let them feel that no needy man goes away starving, and yet to check the alms given, so that begging shall be as distasteful as possible. This is

the principle of the Mendicity Societies worked on the Dorsetshire plan, (who issue bread-tickets entitling the bearer to one pound of bread each five miles, but not to be used in large towns; thus enabling the honest seeker for work to keep moving, and not to hang around crowded centres.) The village bakers are so many bread-stations, and at any of these the vagrant can get his tickets' worth of bread; and however many tickets he may have he can get no more; and the public will give him nothing but tickets. Theft, etc., is thus, it is said, reduced. There must always be a certain number of persons thrown on the community from various causes, but especially in times of commercial pressure: the margin between sufficiency and want is very small, and slight changes affect the labor market, by throwing upon it the indifferent workmen, whom their employer does not care to retain.

"On the other hand it may be fairly argued thus: The vagrant class has been more than once tested, and it is found to be a hopelessly idle and immoral class. Evidence of this will be found in the Report which I enclose, made by the St. Giles' Committee of our Society on the recipients of soup at a kitchen in their district. The applications of vagrants to the Oxford Mendicity (now Charity Organization) Society, were tested with precisely similar results. It is not for the State to pay the traveling expenses of such men, or for charity to feed them. Yet this is what our Relieving Officers, Casual Wards, and Mendicity Societies, are now doing. Granted that trade pressure places the indifferent workmen on the labor market, neither State or private charity should encourage this, by placing chances within his reach, which make his enforced idleness, if it be really enforced, agreeable. Treat vagrancy, therefore, as quasi-criminal: have the cellular system, so that intercommunication be, as far as possible, prevented, and test hard work. The vagrants are known, in their annual rounds, to the Masters of the Workhouses, let them be registered in some manner, and put old offenders to the 'travaux forcés.' At Newcastle it has been shown what they can do in keeping a garden in order, etc. Try this on the Belgian system, and let charity so co-operate with the Poor Law authorities that, whenever possible, cases may, before they are hardened to it, be rescued from this life.

"The issue here, at least, appears to me to lie in the adoption of one or other of these views. In a rich country, in which the tax of these vagrants is but little felt, and almost forgotten, except when the army of vagrants is very great, the former view is likely to be most popular; the latter, if public opinion can be educated to support it, the most beneficial.

"A better organization of labor—of information regarding the labor-market—would, it has been said, do something to remove good cases out of the lines of vagrancy. The employment-advertisements in the general and special press, might be placed within their reach at casual wards or workhouses.

"I am, yours truly,

"C. S. LOCH, Sec'y.

"To CHAS. D. KELLOGG, Esq.,

"General Secretary, Charity Organization Society,
"1429 Market Street, Philadelphia."

CASES.

The pains which some of the public press have taken to ridicule us as a "Society for Asking Questions", results in unexpected good. It is coming to be generally understood that when our Directors take up a case they intend to see it through, and for that reason require at the outset answers to a great many questions bearing on the history and prospects of the case. This, of course, is horribly cruel to those whose cases are rotten: it tends to bring about a general bankruptcy of the begging business, especially in its higher grades; but experience, on the other hand, proves that the fear entertained by many at the inception of this movement that the feelings of the respectable poor would be injured and their privacies be laid bare through this system of strict inquiry, is happily without any warrant whatever. The Ward Officers and Visitors, have had numerous examples, under the head of what is called Private Relief, where, without relaxing the scrutiny essential for a just judgment, aid has been given very much as though it were all in the family and "nothing said about it," only, through investigation, it was more wisely bestowed than family gifts sometimes are, and a record was kept of all the particulars. It is well known that all our records are kept under confidential regulations and are exhibited only to persons who have a proper claim to inspect them, and our lists are becoming more and more a Registry of Credit, enabling us to certify to the good character of men and women seeking employment; still, the old stigma, the instinctive protest of an industrious community against the very idea of alms, attaches itself to a Registry which even in a minority includes an "undeserving" because a lazy and beggarly class. Some impostors have even insinuated themselves into the sanctuary of Private Relief, as several indignant Directors can testify.

A harvest of satisfaction is being reaped by our faithful workers after their long, arduous, and often disagreeable toil. Those who work for thanks seldom get them, but to the truly benevolent there is a sweeter joy in visible results following their judicious and unselfish labors.

Case No. 45.—A recent instance of Private Relief is worth relating. A child came to the Ward Office and wished that "somebody would come around to ——— and see his mamma." He would not tell more. The visit was made, and a case of desperate need was discovered. Here was a refined family, who had always until recently been in comfortable circumstances. The father had at one time filled an important public trust at a salary of \$6,000, afterwards engaging in a large and promising business, but the commercial crisis overbore him, and swept away every dollar. Long he had fought the wolf, but now he lay sick, but hoping soon to stagger to a job of some kind of work, and unwilling to apply to any relief society. Without his knowledge, but more for his sake and the children's than her own, the mother, worn out and despondent, and anguished at the thought of being classed with dependents and parasites, sent the little boy to the Ward Office, and so opened acquaintance. She asked for a friend, and got one and

more. The needed aid in the emergency of sickness and extreme want was given, and the husband, having now a little hope mixed with his medicine, soon gained strength enough to attempt work procured for him in a shipping warehouse whence, later, by his own merits, he was transferred to a position more suited to his abilities, and at a good salary, as overseer in a large mercantile establishment.

He does not now think there was too much "red tape", or that "too many questions were asked" in raising him out of his pit, but that it is a good illustration of the motto of Organized Charity—"not alms but a friend."

Case No. 46.—*Value of a Judicious and Sympathetic Go-between.*—Our 19th Ward Superintendent, recently, in a delicate manner, brought to the knowledge of the pastor and prominent members of a Methodist Church, the circumstances of a respectable couple, past three score and ten, belonging to that communion, thus serving for these worthy people, after due temporary assistance from the office, the permanent guardianship of the Church, and receiving the hearty thanks of both the Church and his aged friends. The old man had been a good mechanic in fine wood-work, but, with failing powers, he was reduced to the small allowance from a beneficial society for support. It was hard for him to break the subject of his necessities to his fellow church members, where he had gone in and out as a strong man for fifty years; but they were glad to help their brother as soon as they had learned the facts. This case is also one of many.

Case No. 47.—*The Labor Question.*—A family in the 19th Ward with nothing to eat, and no work, on account of both parents having the chills. The wife's fingers are numb and her back nearly broken, trying to support the family by binding coats at five cents each. This is one of the myriad examples under the great law of demand and supply. The woman is working at the market price, but it is down-hill to starvation. Our Superintendent and Visitor interposed by getting work for the woman in a mill, and aiding the man till he finds occupation in the furniture business.

Case No. 48.—An interesting family, who looked like people who had been successful in earning their own living, a woman of 35, her mother aged 75, a girl of 9 and a boy of 12, sold out their household stock in Cincinnati, and came on to this city, confidently expecting to find two brothers here, who had been prosperous shoemakers. Arriving here almost penniless, the remaining means were expended in a frantic search for the brothers who had encouraged them to come; but no trace of them appearing, the family in despair sank down upon the Society. Provision was made for them at the Home for the Homeless for 10 days, during investigation and consideration. The brothers having disappeared, a room was secured for the family, a situation found for the boy and employment for the woman, and soon they became self-supporting. Alms-giving or charity doles would soon have landed them in starvation or the alms-house.

Case No. 49.—A respectable looking man, with good address, applied to the Central Office, saying he was sent by a gentleman at the Young Men's Christian Association, (whose name he forgot,) to the former General Secretary. He was on his way back to his own home in Middleboro, Mass., where he was a member of the Young Men's Christian Association, was sick, and had eaten nothing all day. He had not brought the usual letter from his Association, as he had no idea of coming to such straits. When asked his name he hesitated, but finally gave it smoothly enough as "Dan'l S. Pollard." His immediate pressing wants were cared for, and letters of inquiry at once dispatched to Middleboro, which brought the following reply: "Your letter of ——— is received. In reply would say we have no Association here, and have had none for 10 or 12 years. The name you give I never knew, although I have always lived here, and was President of the Association when it was alive." Mr. Pollard's fare to Massachusetts was not paid.

An English impostor of the gentler sex has been unmasked at Chelmsford, after being petted and fed by the benevolent since 1854, under the impression that she was so ill of paralysis that she could not leave her bed without help. During all this time she has subsisted on the charity of the townsfolk, and frequently the prayers of the church have been requested in her behalf. But all this time, too, when no one was looking on, or likely to enter her dwelling, the "paralytic" woman could deftly leap out of bed, dress herself swiftly, cook a substantial meal, and eat it with a relish. At last, after a quarter of a century of deception, she has been found out. Some prying neighbors invaded her privacy at times when they were not expected, and found her not only out of bed and dressed, but making a hearty meal.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. By CHARLES L. BRACE. Large 12mo. 468 pages. Cloth.			\$1.25
WISDOM IN CHARITY. By CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo pamphlet, 10 pages. Per 100.			\$3.00
(Single Copies free on receipt of postage stamp.)			
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo pamphlet. 34 pages.10
PHASES OF CHARITY. By S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo paper. 79 pages,25

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Volume I.]

PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 15, 1880.

[No. 12

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Directors. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1602 Chestnut Street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Twenty-five cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., No. 209 North 4th Street, or to the Central Office, No. 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL NOVEMBER 15TH.

Tuesday,	October 19,	5 P. M.,	Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	October 25,	8 P. M.,	Board of Directors.*
Monday,	November 1,	8 P. M.,	Assembly.†
Monday,	November 8,	10 A. M.,	Women's General Conference.†
Monday,	November 8,	8 P. M.,	Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

EDITORIAL.

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

This is the month for the Annual Meetings of the Ward Associations. The successes of our faithful workers, though enduring, and of inestimable value to the community, are of a sort that cannot be celebrated with pretentious pageantry, and so the meetings for the review of the old year's work and inaugurating that of the new are characterized by the quiet survey of serious duty, and by business like method. The Annual Meeting does not create the new conditions between neighbors which we seek to bring about. Its chief importance is in the opportunity it gives to drop out the unserviceable material from the Ward Boards, and secure in its place those who have time and heart for the taxing and responsible (and, to the earnest, competent workers, attractive) duties of Directors.

Another interesting event will occur, during the latter part of November, in the Annual Meeting of the General Society, which the Board of Directors will no doubt take measures to make as attractive and profitable as the last one.

It gives us pleasure to state that Benjamin H. Shoemaker, Esq., has been unanimously elected to the office of Treasurer of the Society, in

place of Henry C. Lea, Esq., who was compelled to resign the position by his feeble state of health. Mr. Shoemaker brings to the office an intelligent and warm interest in the objects and principles of the Society, having taken an active part as one of the original Commission charged with its establishment.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

There was held at Harrisburg, last month, a State Convention of the Directors of the Poor which was attended by representatives, not from all the Counties, but from all parts of the State. This Society sent to the Convention two delegates, who brought back a gratifying report of the meeting and the nature of the deliberations. Four subjects of peculiar interest to our readers and, indeed, to the people in all parts of the Commonwealth were discussed. First: Should able-bodied persons be admitted as inmates of an Alms-house? The general response elicited from all the delegates was, with great unanimity, in the negative. What to do with able-bodied poor, or vagrants, was not so apparent. In the cities and counties in which work-houses or houses of correction are established, there is no necessity for making provision in Alms-houses for persons sound in body and mind: and the Convention put itself on record as favoring the separation of the infirm and defective classes of the poor from the able-bodied, by providing for the former in the Alms-houses and for the latter in the Work-houses.

The second proposition related to the care of the Insane. Upon this question there was a division of sentiment: the one side favoring the liberty to the Counties to take care of their own Insane, and the other favoring the transfer of all patients of this class to the State Hospitals. The subject was very fully and freely discussed, and the conclusion finally reached, and a resolution to that effect was passed, recommending that all Insane persons should be cared for by the State, and that the expense of their maintenance should be provided for by State appropriations.

The third question of general interest was, the providing of employment for the inmates of the public institutions. The solution suggested was, that the highways, public buildings, and other improvements, be kept in repair by the employment of such labor.

The fourth question related to the all-important matter of the removal of children from the Alms-houses. The Secretary of the State Board of Charities presented a paper on this subject. The delegates showed a deep and lively interest in the care of the children, and it was resolved—That the State Board of Public Charities should petition the Legislature to pass a law providing (1) for the removal of Children from the Poor-houses; (2) making it a misdemeanor, punishable with penalties, to commit children to the Alms-houses; and, (3) making it the duty of Directors and Guardians of the Poor to provide suitable homes and educational facilities for the children who shall require the care and support of the public.

There was, throughout the deliberations of the Convention, a manifest seeking after better methods, and a desire for more thorough treatment of the classes whose condition and care were the trusts committed to the officers who constituted the membership of the Convention. The advantages to arise from a thorough and intelligent co-operation of all the Charitable Institutions and Agencies in the State were not only fully recognized, but significant movements were inaugurated to bring about such union of effort and co-operation as has been, to some extent, secured in the County of Philadelphia, through the efforts of the Society for Organizing Charity.

It was recognized that the present system of administering the public Charities in detail is a very wasteful and expensive one, and that by unity of effort, and co-operation of administration, directness and economy would be secured throughout the Commonwealth.

THE Ward Office of our 6th Ward Association has been removed to the house No. 309 Branch street. In these ampler quarters there is room for the Ward Kindergarten, which has become a valuable adjunct to the work of the Visitors. The cellar is to be used as a wood-yard, where industrious tramps coming into the Ward will be privileged to earn enough to buy meals and lodging, and thus avoid compromising their manhood by begging. The Association has also, sometimes, persons under its care awaiting admission to appropriate institutions (the insane, for example, in whose case three days, at least, are required to get the papers through), and, heretofore, often without proper shelter and attention, which can now be provided in the Ward-house.

HOW TO HOLD CONVENTIONS OF INQUIRY.

On the occasion of the recent Conference at Harrisburg, between the Directors of the Poor of the several Counties of the State and the State Board of Public Charities, this Society was represented, by special invitation, by two Delegates, (Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland and Josiah R. Sypher, Esq.,) and it is no affectation to claim, on behalf of the Delegates, that they contributed in a large degree to the procurement of the best results of the Conference which are so highly commended in the *Public Ledger*, of Sept. 9th, from which we extract the following:

"In refreshing contrast to the vague drivell over new subjects, and waste of important time over old and settled ones, inflicted on the public by some Annual Conventions of specialists, come the direct and exact topics marked out for consideration at Harrisburg in the Convention of Directors of the Poor from about twenty counties and cities of the State. The Committee on Business of that body gets to work in a business way, and wastes no powder on indefinite discussions of charity in the abstract. Neither does it fall into the sometime fault of some other good people, but not gifted with the power of concentration, who endeavor to cut too wide a swath, and waste their energies in pre-empting more fields than they can mow. This present Harrisburg Convention gets right down to practical business at once. The questions reported for discussion are all of direct and immediate importance in the administration of Poor-houses, Almshouses, Charitable relief, and other kindred forms of Charity. Here they are, as printed in the *Ledger*, yesterday:

"First: Should able-bodied persons be admitted as inmates of an Almshouse? Second: How can we prevent the Almshouses from being used for lying-in purposes? Third: Should not all of the Insane be supported by the State at State hospitals, at least until decided that they are incurable? after which they might be removed to asylum accommodations at the almshouse. Fourth: Should tobacco be issued or supplied to inmates? Fifth: To prevent lawsuits, in the settlement of accounts between districts, could there not be a board of arbitration established for settlement of cases in dispute? Sixth: Should not the township system be abolished, and every county be compelled to erect an almshouse? Seventh: How can inmates of an Almshouse be employed to an advantage during the winter? Eighth: The care of epileptics in Almshouses—should there not be some asylum especially provided for them? Ninth: What shall we do with the children found in the Almshouse? Tenth: How may out-door relief be best administered? Eleventh: Is it expedient to pay inmates for labor by them performed when of a mechanical nature?" * * * * *

The public is to be congratulated, decidedly, on the spirit and directness shown at this Harrisburg Conference. If school-matters, and other branches of social science, could be discussed with such absence of twaddle, and clear regard to business, there would be some profit in the yearly convocations in these branches.

"The Conference was attended by one member of the Board of State Charities, two delegates from our Organized Charity Association, and Guardians of the Poor from the 22d and 23d wards; but the attendance from the Guardians of the Philadelphia County Almshouse was conspicuous by its absence."

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

A communication was received from Henry C. Lea, Esq., reluctantly resigning his Treasurership of the Society, on account of impaired health. The subject of choosing his successor was referred to the Finance Committee; and suitable expressions of regret, and of thanks for his kind services were adopted.

The General Secretary reported, that there is often developed, by the experience of the Central Office, the need of some Federal or Inter-State legislation, whereby persons having legal settlement in one State, and falling under need of relief in another, may have subsistence and transportation to their homes at the cost of the parties properly chargeable therewith. Cases of peculiar hardship often arise in which residents of another State are thrown upon the charity of our citizens and Societies; who, for lack of ability to grant the full adequate relief demanded by the circumstances, and of any well-recognized claim upon the local government justly chargeable with the needed relief, can only supply such temporary dols as are tantalizing, discouraging, and pauperizing to the last degree. Similar provision to that which now exists between the several counties of the individual States in regard to such persons, is much needed between the several States; and the consideration of the subject was referred to the Committee on Legal Questions.

The subject of enlarging the size of the MONTHLY REGISTER was referred to the Editorial Committee.

The Committee on Ward Associations reported the printing and wide distribution of a paper urging the increased co-operation of men and

women in the work of the Ward Associations, in accordance with the views of the Assembly; and the General Secretary was instructed to report to the Assembly the action of the Board, both as regards this matter, and also the Resolutions enforcing greater attention to the sanitary interests of the poor.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The Assembly met for its October conference on the evening of the 15th inst., in the Central Lecture Hall, 15th and Market, with Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the Chair.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting by the Secretary, A. B. Williams, Esq., the General Secretary reported from the Board of Directors their action regarding the Resolutions presented by the Committees on "*Hygiene and Sanitary Measures*," and on "*Visitation and Women's Work*," by the June Assembly. The recommendations of these Committees had been cordially seconded by the Central Board of Directors, and distributed among all the workers in the Society, both men and women, and it now remains with the Ward Boards and the Corps of Visitors jointly, to carry them into effective operation.

Further time was given to the Committee on "*Employment*" in which to make their report.

The subject assigned for discussion was then announced: "Methods for better Co-operation between the Men and Women in the work of the Ward Associations" and

Dr. H. T. Child, of the 6th Ward, stated that there had been women, from the beginning, on the Board in his ward; that in their experience this plan had supplied the needed bond between the Board of Directors and the women engaged as Visitors.

Mrs. R. E. C. Gillingham, Chairman of the WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE then opened the discussion with a paper, which she read by request of the compiler, upon the plans for this co-operation elsewhere. The paper in effect stated: That a study of the methods of other Societies of Organized Charity would throw light upon the question. Among these societies may be named Brooklyn, Boston, Detroit, Buffalo, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee. Of these the Buffalo and the Boston societies have been the longest under trial. These have Ward or District Conferences, held once a week or oftener, to consider the Superintendents' reports, and the questions of relief requiring special attention. All the workers, men and women, Directors and Visitors, form the Conference, and the Superintendent is present. The Conference has an executive committee with which the Superintendent confers in the discharge of his duties, and which directs the work of the Conference. Its functions correspond to the combined duties of our committees on "*Visitation*" and "*Decision of Relief*." These weekly conferences seem to supply the want that is felt in our Society—

- 1st. In securing concert and harmony of action.
- 2nd. In gaining the immediate advice and experience of all in the questions of relief.
- 3rd. In improving the standard of discrimination in relief.
- 4th. In avoiding misunderstandings through divided action.
- 5th. In adding intelligent interest to the subject, and in the education it would afford to our workers.
- 6th. In economy of the time and energy of both Directors and Visitors.
- 7th. In the advice and aid to the Superintendent.
- 8th. In promoting the esprit-du-corps of all by this united action.

The suggested Conferences would not require any change in the constitution of the Ward Associations, and but slight changes, if any, in the existing by-laws. The Visitors would act under the same rules as now. The committees on "*Visitation*" and "*Decision of Relief*" would correspond to, or might be made the Executive committee of the Conference, and attend its weekly meetings. They would act in concert with the Superintendent in the intervals between the meetings of the Conference, and act in other executive capacities for the Conference, subject to the rules of the Ward Boards of Directors. Thus monthly meetings of the board of directors would be sufficient for the ordinary routine of business, and this release would enable the Directors to be present at the weekly Conferences, and aid with their counsel and advice on the questions of relief. Any Board of Directors could be represented by a committee if more convenient. At the Conferences the Superintendent may make his report under the direction of the Executive Committee; the cases are reviewed, and his action in those that have required immediate attention are first placed under criticism. Next the deferred cases are submitted, and then new cases. All are carefully considered and decided in turn, or they are assigned to one or more members of the Conference, with power to act or to report to the Conference as the condition of the case shall warrant. The Superintendent also receives instructions in the cases referred to his charge. The Conference is able to make an equal and suitable distribution of cases without laying undue burden on a few, or committing difficult cases to inexperienced Visitors. Weekly meetings of the Conference are necessary for a due consideration of cases requiring its action; the Superintendent acting in the interval under proper direction, and reporting thereon to the Conference. The following excerpts from an address by one of the most active workers in Organized Charity in another city gives farther insight into the working of the Buffalo and Boston Societies:

"Buffalo has in the last eighteen months studied, started, organized, and got well along on the path of perfection, the same system which we seek here; but so far they have only four district conferences. Each has its local office, and a paid visitor giving his whole time, living if possible in the house above; the lower floor, two rooms opening together, being the office. The front room is used by the agent, and the rear room, separated by a rail, is used by the committees, or for any purpose. The cost being, for visiting agent and office, about \$60 monthly; not over \$800 a year, including everything. Every applicant for aid is to apply at the

district office, and citizens are urged, and are learning to send, every applicant there first; so that street-begging has well-nigh ceased.

"Twice a week the district conference meet, consult, and act on all new and all deferred cases. I was present at the meetings of two of these conferences. Ten business men met at the first district at five p. m., and in seventy minutes had considered and acted on every case. The record of a case is read; the agent is there to answer questions. The decision in each case is the best which ten good men can make. In each case the best decision, on their best judgment, after brief consultation. Visitors are not selected at hap-hazard, nor sent blindly. But, in each case, the visitor best adapted to handle that case, and with special instructions about the case and what to do; that is, be sure not to aid, or to aid judiciously while sickness lasts; or to furnish work, if possible; or to get them out of a bad neighborhood or tenement; or to tone up one who is demoralized; or to encourage one who is struggling against drink; in every case to make him more of a man—her more of a woman, and especially to look after the children. Not mere relief or more relief, but real help, wise counsel, friendly visits, elevation of the man or woman, and, above all, guarding, wherever possible, the boys and girls from growing up into paupers. Pauperism is a vast army. Cut off the recruits. Stop the sources of supply. Every boy or girl saved from growing up a pauper is a great gain to us: how much more to themselves!

"Yes, in this spirit, working to this end, full of this faith, Buffalo has buckled on its whole armor for the fight; not merely to relieve, but to remove pauperism. Her best business men have taken it up strongly. The president of the Charity Organization Society is the president of a great steamboat company, sending almost daily a steamer up the lakes; and the same energy and wisdom guide the charity which direct the business. The people are giving it their cordial support. The churches are furnishing visitors in good numbers, though by no means all that are wanted. The newspapers are eager to aid; publish full reports; publish weekly, and without charge, a bulletin of cases (without names) where work or aid, or anything in special, is desired. The response which private charity gives to any such public appeal is prompt and large. Why, ladies and gentlemen, we do not begin to realize the volcanic power for good which lies dormant in this people, all ready to be evoked into life and work, in any good cause, by the mighty agency of the public press. The success, the cordiality, the devotion, with which the best men and women in Buffalo have started, and have now in full career, her organization of charities, deeply impressed me with surprise and admiration. They hardly realize themselves how grandly they are doing.

"Now, then, for ourselves, where the problem is different—harder, because the city is so much larger, the numbers of the needy so much more numerous, and pauperism has got a tighter grip on us. Misplaced charity is a mischief both to giver and receiver, but wisely and lovingly given, charity falls like the dews of heaven, blessing both giver and receiver, it is hard to tell which most; but, given indiscriminately, it fosters the pauperism it is meant to relieve.

"What influence can be worse for all who see that begging pays better than work?—for the beggar and the worker, for adults, and especially for the young? How quick children are to see, how eager to compare! What worse poison can taint the blood of boys and girls, when their character, like wax, is to receive the stamp, to last perhaps through life, than the belief that begging prospers while honest industry is cold and hungry?

"The ward or district conferences will work each in its own territory. Each may be composed of a dozen, more or less, good men and women. It will aim to bring the visitors of the different relief-giving societies into mutual acquaintance with each other, and their ways and works, so that intelligent co-operation may replace conflict, and competition, and overlapping. A district conference should have one good representative, man or woman, of each church in the district, whose duty and delight it should be to learn and know what ladies and gentlemen in the parish can be relied on for friendly visitation; also one or more of the visitors of each good general relief-giving society, and especially a visitor of the overseers of the poor; and also a few other interested men and women. Meeting once a week, more or less, as they find needful, discussing each case briefly, learning all about it, with all the information from the overseers of the poor, and any other society which knows. No matter whether relief be given or not, cull out every case where a friendly visitor can be of any help, not to give relief, but to build a family in any way into a better life.

"THE GREAT WORK FOR FRIENDLY VISITORS.

"Here, at last, the work for the city to do looms up in grand proportions. This is the work of absorbing interest. The call is not on our purse or pocket. The best thought of to-day proclaims through the civilized world that money is impotent to deal with the great problem of pauperism. It is not this society—it is not any society, which can itself do the work. Nothing will avail but the earnest co-operation of all good men and women, who know the need, and hear the cry, and are ready to respond, each devoting a little of his time, and thought, and love, to helping up one or two of those who are down. You, who are strong, give some of your strength to those who are weak. You, who are well, take of your health into the chambers of sickness. You, who love industry, teach it to the idle. You, in your strength of character, steady the stumbling. You, who know the infinite value of a child's life, watch over the boy or girl exposed to danger, and try to keep them safe. You, whose homes are radiant with joy, take some of the sunshine of heaven into the gloom of the needy. The relation thus formed may last till the need is over—better still, till the family have developed into independence—best of all, if the friendly relations last through life.

"These are the objects for which the new society invokes the aid of what is called 'a corps of friendly visitors.' Dispel, at the outset, the

fear that this great corps of twenty-five hundred visitors are to be let loose to commit indiscriminate charity on a suffering city. That would indeed sow the seeds of pauperism with an open hand. No Visitor is to go anywhere on his or her own motion, nor to follow his or her own judgment in giving relief. Everything must start with a deliberate vote of the district conference. They must select the visitor, as wisely as they can, who is best suited to each case. Inform him or her of the nature of the case, and what objects to work for. In most cases our friendly visitors must go under peremptory orders not to give any money or physical relief. Wherever man, woman, or youth, can work and will not, or cannot find work, or is in temporary trouble, or spends in drink what would otherwise support the family, our rules cannot be too rigid, that gratuitous relief, so far as necessary, should come from the relief-giving societies who have been dealing with the case, or through the agency of the conference only after a special vote, which should in every case aim at the permanent elevation of that family even more than at present relief. In almost all such cases, not only must the visitor be prohibited from giving any money, but must be made to understand that money-aid may do more harm than good. It may help the family downwards. Only an expert can judge just what and how much to give, and be sure not to encourage thriftlessness or idleness or beggary. Charity must often seem a little cruel, if it would be truly kind. In all these cases visitors may find much to do for the children and the mother, in counsel or sympathy, and especially finding work. After friendly relations have been formed between any gentleman or lady and a needy family, especially if they take the whole care of them, relief, when needed, may be given with less danger and more judgment. Probably the supervision of this society, as well as the relief of all the relief-giving societies, would have long ceased.

"There is also a class of cases where relief is needed in large measure, and can do no harm:—where death has taken away the father, leaving a mother unable to support a large family of children; where long sickness cuts off all support; where old age asks a little comfort; and where orphans are to be reared. Surely nothing can be more welcome to the overseers of the poor, or whatever society has felt the burden of such relief, than to have some kind family assume the whole care, and visiting, and guidance and relief. How many men and women are there, in this city, of ample means and ready to relieve any such distress, whenever the facts are known! All they want is to know exactly where the need is, who are really worthy, and how to help wisely. Why cannot our district conferences bring these two classes together? Make lists of all who are ready to stand in this relation of relief, advice and love; and give them, with wise instructions, the chance to help those in extreme need. I do not know whether a lady or gentleman assuming this relation to a poor family would be called a visitor. If they are, then this is the exception provided for in our plan of work. This relief would be given, after a vote of the conference, with full knowledge of the visitor of the society which had previously given relief—no doubt with his cordial approval; probably on his suggestion.

"The plan is not rigid, but very elastic. Adapt it to the work. After a brief time of trial, put it in such better shape as we can. The coldest science and the warmest charity unite in demanding more than mere physical relief. Carry it too far, and aid a man so often, or so unwisely, as to sap his manhood, his self-respect, his self-reliance, and charity has left a curse where it came to bless. Better, infinitely better, than all this, is the counsel, love and help which seek to rescue from pauperism each man, or woman, or child, who is in or near that slough of despond, and plant them again on firm land.

"Oh, that our words could ring, (by some great telephone,) as our influence must enter, in the home of every working man and woman in this great city, and teach temperance, industry, skill and thrift. These four are the cure of their woes and wants. Each one is powerful: united, they are irresistible. Without temperance, all is in vain. Industry earns enough to keep any man or woman out of want. Add skill, and the product or wages (the same thing) may be increased one or five fold. And then thrift! Let a man take one good step in the path of saving, with the firm purpose to get ahead, and we have got him, and his wife, and children, on our side, perhaps for good. Temperance for the corner-stone. Industry, to keep steadily at work. Skill, to make the product large. Thrift, to save a fair share of it. These are the four great magicians of modern magic. Let them wave their mighty wands over any town, and a transformation follows fairer than ever met Aladdin's eye. Happy homes owned by those who live in them, hands always busy, wages large, and thrift building all up into independence!"

Miss C. K. Meredith, of the 8th ward, said, the subject of placing women on the Board had been talked of in that ward, and had been dropped, because it was intimated that it would violate a by-law of the general society, and she desired information on that point.

The President replied, that there was no such by-law, and sketched the history of the formation of the Society, when it was a distinct purpose to exclude from the laws any words that would prejudice this matter; and it was left to the option and the growing experience of the wards themselves. In proof of this is the fact, that more than one of the wards have had women on their Boards from the first without raising any question of conformity.

Mrs. Rodman Wharton, of the 7th ward, said, that the important point was, that the persons who are in direct relations with the beneficiaries and the persons who decide upon the cases should come together. Often those who are not visitors, and have a very partial view of the case, decide it. By the plan of a little conference to consider cases, as she saw it in London, most excellent results were arrived at.

Mr. P. C. Garrett, of the 22d ward, said, that these things should be left to find their own level. In some wards it might be advantageous to have a Board partly of women; in some, perhaps, one entirely of women.

In the 22d ward the women have refused to enter the Board. There the women investigate and decide relief. He did not think a case is ever brought before the Board. It meets once a month, and votes on the ways and means, and, in a word, authorizes whatever schemes the women recommend. His experience had not been favorable to a combination of men and women on the same Board. Their methods and views were different. He did not think the line of sex was the line to divide on at all, in judging of the suitableness of persons for this work.

Mr. Charles T. Holme spoke, in a general way, of the Society's work in the 23d ward. As a result, he said, you will see hardly more than one beggar a week in Frankford. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are ladies, and know every family within their bounds, and soon find out about newcomers. The Guardians are in concert with the Ward Association. Year before last they spent \$3000; last year only \$1400 were required, and this year still less. One of their chief anxieties was, to get people to look out for to-morrow, and save in summer for the coming winter. A colored man, in the overabundance of his hopefulness, would spend fifty cents for the first watermelon, if it took all the change he had.

Mr. James C. Biddle emphasized the great need of such co-operation, and his conviction of its easy attainment when fairly tried.

Mrs. Wharton said, the ideal state of things would be, to have some men who would visit as well as women. Some workingmen are sore and discouraged, and if a man would go as a neighbor, and see them and talk over their difficulties with them, it would help them to a new start.

Mr. Garrett said, it was not known, at the beginning, that women were to become the backbone of the whole thing. There is an advantage in having some persons on the Committee of Decision who are not interested in the case. There should be a veto power somewhere; whether in men or women is immaterial.

Miss Meredith thought that some Boards put the veto power too far off, with those who are not acquainted with the facts of the case, and do not seek to know them.

Dr. Wayland urged, again, the establishment of woodyards, or something of that sort—three or four of them; places where men could, at any time, earn their temporary support or transportation. [This matter a Committee of the Board have had under consideration for some time, and are endeavoring to bring to a practical effect.]

Farther discussion, for which we have not space, was participated in by Miss Hallowell, Mrs. Wharton, Mrs. John Lucas, Wm. Ingram, Esq., and Drs. Cadwalader and Jeffers.

Dr. Hodge hoped we should have hearty, earnest work from this time on, in the several wards. Let no question of lack of co-operation, or fault in the temporary structure of the Society, interfere with our doing the best we can. We may change places, some day, and the men be Visitors and the ladies the Board. The forms under which we are associated are not claimed to be perfect, and they are elastic; so that we may all find room to exercise our various gifts and abilities for the real and permanent benefit of our fellowmen who need our help.

The Assembly then adjourned.

NOTES.

THRIFT.

The Earl of Derby at a recent Conference on Thrift, held at the London Mansion House, among other things, said:

"I do not think that it is an exaggeration to say, that a penny bank in every workshop would add millions yearly to the wealth of the country. The shilling that is set aside from weekly wages should not have to pass the public house door if it can be helped; it should be put by at once."

We append the following extracts from an article on the subject, which appeared in the 'London Times', of the 15th of March:

"There can be no doubt that thrift is a sadly neglected virtue. The working classes—and we might go much higher—will never be persuaded that it is really necessary to save. No appeals to their common sense, their selfishness, or their self-respect, will avail against the evident fact that improvidence is very seldom punished, or, at least, much punished, in this country. All real property, and with it a large proportion of personal property, and skilled or professional industry, are pledged to the sufficient maintenance of the aged and destitute, and it is found not only humane but prudent to administer this legal relief with much tact and delicacy. The working classes, then, are safe enough; and, as they have humbly regarded themselves as the collective servants of a multitude of employers, possessed of an inexhaustible capital, they feel no shame in expecting their employers to make up, at last, for the long arrears of inadequate pay. The classes above see more than this. They see a vast number of institutions and societies, all framed on purely benevolent principles, for the relief of every kind of want. Many of them would feel they had not availed themselves of their full rights if they had not claimed the benefit of some eleemosynary institution or other. Society comes to be regarded as taking care of its members, and they come to be regarded as having a claim upon it."

"We suppose it must be said that this very improvidence, though a blot on the national character, and fatal to the formation of the higher virtues, is one secret of our national power. Below a certain class we have, comparatively, few persons of independent means. We have not the small *rentiers* of France. We have not comfortable couples, or elderly men or women, living, without employment, on fifty or a hundred a-year. Our drones are of a larger sort. Englishmen do not easily save enough to acquire their independence, and, when they do save enough, they generally throw it away on some foolish investment. There is no

more remarkable feature of English society, in comparison with the French, than the number of persons who continue in harness, doing a fair amount of work, the whole of their lives, when, by the most moderate exercise of prudence and self-denial, they might have acquired a competence at forty or fifty. The result is, that they are serving their country to the very last, and no doubt the country is the better for the active service of every citizen. Our common laborers, when not disabled by accident or disease, go on working until seventy, and much as we may regret that they have not provided a rest from their labor, we cannot deny that their country is a gainer so far. As a rule, however, improvidence is a loss to the country. It avails itself of the plea of humanity to extort from the country that which it ought to have made for itself. It throws the aged, the orphan, and the widow, upon the hands of a society that has not the heart to repudiate them. Industry is continually clogged, and burdened, with such incumbrances. If riches increase, increased are they that eat them, and the consumers are non-effective as well as effective. Almost every private gentleman has his private poor-law in operation for the relief of those who have thrown themselves on his hands. It is the way of the nation, and it is reckoned on; but in this, as in some other respects, England may find she has to mend her ways."

CASES.

Case No. 50.—A man applied to the Central Office, with a tired wife, and four small children, saying, he was directed here by the Chief of Police for transportation, as the City had no provision for the purpose. He had just arrived from Chicago, had spent all his money, and wished to go to Baltimore, where he had prospect of work (as fresco painter), and friends who would help him if they knew of his straits. He later admitted they had been here three weeks occupying rooms, from which he had dragged his wife and little ones around the city from one office to another while he begged for tickets. After explaining that we could not furnish free tickets to strangers on unsupported statements, as he had no vouchers with him or friends in the City, we offered to maintain the family two or three days, while sending to Baltimore to verify his story, and, if correct, to send them all on. This was instantly resented; and, declining to disclose the names of his Baltimore friends, he left, avowing his ability to do without the Charity which denied free transportation to all applicants, and "no questions asked."

Case No. 53.—A single man of apparent culture and refinement was sent to the Central Office by one to whom he had applied for aid, in utter destitution from lack of employment. He stated that he had been in good business in St. John, N. B., was ruined by the great fire; that he then became a teacher, then a book-keeper, and later found good employment at Boston. This business closing after a year or two, he came to this city. Failing to find work here, he parted with everything, and was, finally, without food or lodging when sent to the Society, and near to starvation. Put under the care of the 8th Ward Superintendent, the latter provided board for a week, while seeking a situation, and corresponding with his former connections, from whom the most favorable replies were received. But his previous sufferings now told upon him, so that serious illness set in, and admission was secured for him to a hospital until his recovery. Then the 6th Ward Association (where he had at first had lodgings) took up his case and arranged for his free transportation, by sea to his home at St. John. Before sailing, however, frequent interviews so impressed the Ward Committee with his ability and character, that they thought it best that his services should be retained here, if possible, as a gain to the community. Temporary work was given until a proper effort should be put forth. A well-known and influential citizen was applied to, became interested in him, and shortly a responsible position was found in one of our leading hospitals at good pay. To enable him to dress properly for his position funds were loaned him to be repaid in weekly installments, and he is now independent, and laying by money. His duties occupying only the morning hours, the rest of the day is gratefully given in public-spirited gratuitous service in connection with two of the benevolent societies of the city; and so one on the verge of pauperism has been rescued, and continues a valuable member of the community. No expense at all was incurred by the latter Ward, but a large amount of work was done, the result of which fully justified the wisdom of the Society's course.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

		By mail	
DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. By CHARLES L. BRACE.			
Large 12mo; 488 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25		\$ 1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. By CHARLES G. ANES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....	3 00		3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]			
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10		.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. By S. H. GUITEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25		.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50		.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50		.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.60		.65

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 1.
WHOLE NO. 13.

PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 15, 1880.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS

THE MONTHLY REGISTER is the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, and is conducted by an Editorial Committee of three persons appointed by the Directors. Communications may be addressed to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, Office 1602 Chestnut Street, on matters pertaining to its columns. The terms for this periodical are only Fifty cents a year, and a reduction will be made from these terms for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.

7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The General Secretary, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will be happy to furnish farther information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., No. 209 North 4th Street, or to the Central Office, No. 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL DECEMBER 15TH.

Wednesday,	November 17,	5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	November 22,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Tuesday,	November 23,	8 P. M. Annual Meeting of the Society.†
Monday,	December 6,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Monday,	December 13,	10 A. M., Women's General Conference.†
Monday,	December 13,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

‡ At Association Hall, 15th and Chestnut Sts.

EDITORIAL.

OUR LIBRARY.

Has been much enriched the past year by many contributions from friends at home and abroad. We trust that none who feel an interest in looking into the critical and scientific aspects of benevolent work will be backward in consulting the valuable matter in our cases. We shall be glad to place upon our shelves books and pamphlets on subjects connected with visiting among the poor, on vagrancy and pauperism, the dependent, defective and criminal classes, on homes and hospitals, reformatories, refuges, public in-door and out-door relief, provident, educational and industrial schemes, and in short on any subject which directly or indirectly affects the possible improvement of the condition of the poor. Biographies also of those who have given their lives to the cause of the depressed and afflicted often contain much valuable suggestion. We need the books indicated, for the use of our various workers, for whom we are collecting a library of considerable special value; and we appeal to those who own a few rarely used volumes of the classes indicated, to add them to our collection where they will be carefully preserved and will be accessible to a wider circle of students, than when buried in promiscuous literature.

VOLUME TWO.

With this number we enter upon the second year of our career as a monthly visitor to our friends and fellow-workers. The kind reception with which we have met, and the large amount of valuable material constantly waiting for admission to our columns, have decided us to double our size, and by a necessary consequence the subscription price also. We trust that the increased attractiveness of the paper will be followed by a proportionate increase in our number of subscribers, which is yet insufficient for self-support. We shall be alert to collect and issue the best and latest thoughts in that department of social and civic economy which is our special care, which we shall endeavor to make effective in permanently improving the condition of the poor and depressed of Philadelphia, and in elevating and refining the home life of the independent working classes. And while striving to ameliorate the sufferings of poverty, we shall not forget the other duty which the citizens have imposed upon us of laboring also to prevent the increase of the dangerous classes by the suppression of the mendicancy and pauperism which are such large factors in their propagation. Our price is still so trifling that we feel justified in asking not only for prompt renewals of all past subscriptions, but the kind aid of all in extending its circulation among their friends. If every subscriber would send us even one additional, the list would be at once doubled, and the paper made self-maintaining.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at Association Hall on the evening of Tuesday, the 23d inst., at 8 o'clock; the meeting for election of Directors and other business occurring at 7 o'clock. Eminent citizens of Philadelphia and elsewhere, have been invited to make addresses, of which detailed information will be given in the daily papers in advance. Contributing and working members are especially invited and requested to bring their friends whom they know to be interested in the work.

MR. HUGHES' ADDRESS.

When Mr. Hughes was here, he made an address before our Society which was misunderstood in some particulars. Our critics eagerly quoted his authority for contrasting our Philadelphia Society with that of London, particularly in the item of expense. While saying that the London Society had a central office with paid agents, he also spoke of the Volunteer Service rendered in the Districts or Parishes of London, the gratuitousness of which had secured general respect and overcome much hostility to the organization. Many persons understood him to mean that the local subordinate organizations were under no expense for paid expert agents. As this is not the fact, it is evident that persons who so understood him, drew false inferences from his remarks. The impression to be conveyed was that London society saw hundreds of men and women of high social standing and of fortune devoting themselves freely to the care of the poor under the auspices of the District Committees of the London Society and this consecration of leisure, intelligence and wealth attracts attention and begets confidence. Precisely the same state of things exists in this city. The correspondence between London and Philadelphia is complete.

The London Central Board paid last year \$37,500 for expenses; we paid \$7,500. London is four times as large as Philadelphia, and if it had followed our ratio, it would have saved \$7,500. Nor this alone. The increased expenses do not go on in proportion to the population, for it costs a larger share of the total in any city to open and equip a Central Office at all. When once the machinery is made the application of it to new territory is a small item of cost. Each London District has a paid expert or inquiry officer just as our Wards have in this city. It is necessary that some responsible person give his whole time to the details of administration. These London local officers cost that Society on an average more

than twice what was paid in Philadelphia. Then again an immense amount of gratuitous work was done in London by Committee men and Visitors, just as has been done by our Directors and Women Visitors. Thousands of hours have been employed by our local officers and Visitors every week, without pay or suggestion or hope of pay. Never in the history of the city, have so many volunteers been gratuitously at work as since CHARITY ORGANIZATION summoned them to the field. There are over 1,200 of them. They are persons of education, of leisure, of refinement and of busy occupation. They work over details of administration on Committees, in Conference and especially in consideration of individual cases of distress.

This is the more creditable because America has not the leisure class that England has in at all the same measure. Our young men of fortune, if they have any spirit, are sure to go into professions or business. Hence the surrender of their time is a greater sacrifice than that of their English peers. The truth is that Mr. Hughes' statement of the experience of the London Society so perfectly matched our own, that all our well-informed listeners were especially encouraged and delighted with his remarks.

THE REGISTER AS A WARD CIRCULAR.

We would again remind the Directors of our Ward Associations of the value to them of the REGISTER as a medium of communication between them and the citizens of their own Wards, whenever they wish to issue Reports, or special appeals within their districts. Extra editions of 1,000 copies and upwards, changed to include the special matter they desire to have disseminated, would cost but little if any more than a document separately prepared for the purpose, and the other matter of the REGISTER would be very effective in informing the citizens of the Ward of the valuable and peculiar character of the work done by us, and tend to show the broad civic character of our operations.

If each Ward Association would upon a single page, give full information to its own citizens of the Ward Office, hours, Superintendent and boundaries, with a full list of Directors, Visitors and all the Committees, with assurances that all cases of beggars applying at residences would be kindly and promptly cared for if referred to the Ward Office for investigation and decision, with other needed hints to show the folly and danger of ignorant and indiscriminate alms-giving, it would give a practical idea of our work to vast numbers who yet know little or nothing about us, and convince them that charity and wisdom both point to us as their best co-adjutors in the work of benevolence; that while not interfering with their private benefactions, we can enable them to bestow them with judgment and freedom from imposition.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

OCTOBER MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

A *Special Committee* (Josiah R. Sypher, Esq., Chairman,) was appointed to prepare for the Annual Meeting in November; and the *Editorial Committee* and the General Secretary were charged with the preparation of the Annual Report. The Board authorized the publication of the valuable paper read before the October Assembly by Mrs. W. J. Gillingham upon the modes of securing larger co-operation between the men and women workers of this Society.

The General Secretary reported the frequent need of a charitable Legal Bureau for the protection of the oppressed poor and for assisting the Ward Associations and other Societies in the abatement of such public and private wrongs as interfere with the welfare and elevation of the working classes; to be administered somewhat after the principles and methods of the medical relief so abundantly supplied to the sick poor, and the subject was referred for consideration to the Standing *Committee on Legal Questions*.

Invitations were received and accepted to attend the Annual Meetings of the 13th and 15th Ward Associations.

Benjamin H. Shoemaker, Esq., was unanimously elected Treasurer of the Society in place of Henry C. Lea, Esq., who retires from ill health.

The *Committee on Ward Associations* reported a large amount of work done in several of the Wards in efforts to secure new working material upon the Boards of Directors; and offered the following Resolutions, which were adopted:

"Resolved, that the Board suggest to the Ward Associations the expediency of any of the groups of Ward Associations composing a Guardian's District, having one office and a Common Superintendent."

"Resolved, that the Committee on Co-operation be authorized to con-

fer with the Board of Guardians as to the terms upon which efficient co-operation could be secured with them."

The *Committee on Suppressing Beggary*, etc., reported that it was inexpedient to employ a Detective Agent to assist the several Superintendents in weeding out the professional beggars from their beneficiaries:—that no bar exists to the most cordial co-operation of the Mayor and Police Force in measures to suppress mendicancy, and that the Society has from the Department the most cordial offers of assistance, and very many proofs of its purpose to carry out these offers. They emphasized the importance of obliging able-bodied vagrants seeking work, to do some compensating labor while assisted by the Society; and the establishment of a Wood Yard, (after a plan sketched by gentlemen interested in the project and who had offered to bear the expense,) was recommended. As to able-bodied vagrants unwilling to work, prompt committal to the House of Correction should be enforced. The blind and crippled vagrants, disabled from performing heavy manual labor, should be provided for in suitable Institutions if willing to work, if unwilling to work, should be arrested and committed to the Alms-House. There are very few disabled vagrants but can do some light work, and should perform it both for their moral and physical welfare.

As to the employment and reformation of vagrants, the Committee asked for time for further consideration.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular Monthly Meeting of the Women's General Conference was held on Monday, October 11th; the President, Mrs. Gillingham, in the Chair; Mrs. Blankenburg acting as Secretary, pro tem.

The minutes and the reports from the various Wards were read and approved.

On motion of Mrs. Lesley, of the 7th Ward, the Superintendents of the Ward Associations were invited to attend the future meetings of the Conference.

Miss Meta Paul, of the 7th Ward, suggested a change in the day or hour of the meetings, the present early hour on a Monday morning being inconvenient to many whose presence would be of great advantage. The suggestion was well received but laid over for future consideration.

Mesdames Lesley, Blankenburg and Biddle, were appointed a Committee to nominate officers for the coming year.

Miss Hollowell, of the 7th Ward, submitted a form of a Circular letter to be distributed through the Wards for the purpose of increasing the Corps of Visitors.

Miss Hancock, of the 6th Ward, had experienced the great necessity for a larger Corps of Visitors, but it was impossible to obtain them in that section of the city, for they were not there to find. She called attention to the great profit to be gained by the help of the Public School Teachers, who, in a measure, are known to the children of their Ward.

Mrs. Lesley suggested that the Wards more favored in personal material for this service should come to the aid of their needy neighbors.

Mrs. Gillingham, of the 20th Ward, hoped that the consideration of the best interests of the City as a whole, and not of the separate Wards, would always be kept in mind.

Mrs. Wharton, of the 7th Ward, intimated that the sending the circular-letter broadcast should not be too general and by this means bring in Visitors whose numbers would be at the expense of their qualifications for the work.

Mrs. Cope, of the 7th Ward, considered that personal appeals were the strongest and should not be neglected. Also that the plan of canvassing the districts, as was adopted at the formation of the Society, was a wise one.

Mrs. Gawthrop, of the 15th Ward, feared their Ward would be unable to accept the Circular letter already drawn up because of the phrase "the Superintendent makes the first visit"—in that Ward the duty devolves on the Visitor and not on the Superintendent.

Mrs. Gillingham said, we must study the constitutions of Wards as of individuals. Each Ward might send out its own letter. Mrs. ———, of the 15th Ward, objected to this plan and hoped the letter would come from the whole body and not from individual Wards, and she hoped her Ward would adopt the letter as did the others.

On motion of Mrs. Blankenburg, the subject was referred to a Committee to report to the next meeting.

Discussion followed as to the advantages and disadvantages of the first visit being made by the Superintendent. The ladies of the 7th Ward gave an account of the successful working of this plan in their Ward, notwithstanding much objection on the part of the Visitors at first. Most of the objectors now see the benefit and gain in many ways.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet on the second Monday in November.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

NOVEMBER 1ST, 1880.

The Assembly held its regular Monthly Meeting for November on the evening of the 1st inst., Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding.

After the reading of the minutes by Mr. A. B. Williams, Secretary, the following By-Law was reported for the governance of the Assembly:

"Each member of the Assembly shall have power to associate with itself any member of the Society whose advice and assistance they think likely to promote its work."

The following Committee on

MEANS OF PROMOTING PROVIDENT HABITS.

was appointed by Mr. Philip C. Garrett, its Chairman, as follows:

Which has been assigned the subject of promoting provident habits among the poor, after having given the subject such consideration as seemed possible during the past summer, and on the 1st of September, 1880, for conference and for mutual consultation.

There were read expressive of the deep interest felt by members of the Assembly on such provident schemes as may aid the poor to improve their condition. These schemes to be safe and effective must be based on sound business principles. The existing Savings Banks, Friendly Societies and Co-operative Associations are such institutions which may be recommended for the poor; but it is believed that Ward Committees may undertake the work of receiving small sums of money, and thus proposing it for the owners in one of the large institutions. This may be the means of economizing small sums now worse than

the difficulty of reaching the very people we desire to help, and placing them to be guided by the judgment of others, is fully recognized. These arrangements as a rule are only understood by the most intelligent of the poorer classes and are generally accepted by those who are in steady employment. The grade below the workman are excluded by the very conditions of their life. Their scanty earnings are barely sufficient to keep body and soul together, and they listen incredulously to any suggestion that may temporarily take away the smallest sum. Too often they are in debt for rent and the necessities of life, and debt induces a feeling of hopelessness. Extreme poverty is not found to develop the virtue of frugality. The poor mother of a family who can seldom engage in regular employment, and who hourly sees the effect of privation upon her children, can scarcely realize that immediate relief is not an imperative necessity.

Yet it is believed that the plan of work established by the Charity Organization Society facilitates the reaching of the humblest classes through its Visitors. If each Visitor can wisely and faithfully educate in the widest sense one, two, or three families, there may be great encouragement of hope that large numbers of ignorant, improvident people, will learn to recognize the possibility of providing for future necessities by foresight and economical use of resources. This good work can only be done by close personal influence, and by years of frequent interchange of sympathy and kindness.

It is suggested that Visitors should explain to the improvident that by saving a small sum weekly, he can purchase his supplies at the end of the season, in quantity, at a much cheaper rate than he can do "by the small." It should also be shown to the workman that by becoming a shareholder in a co-operative store he can save a large percentage on his purchases. He will most probably be persuaded to try the plan, and once trying, he will lay the foundation of thrifty habits upon which he can build year after year, until beyond the reach of ordinary poverty.

The "Fuel Savings Society of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia" has quietly and unostentatiously done a good work in the line of cultivating and developing provident habits among working men and working women; and it has been in existence nearly sixty years. It was originally organized to prevent suffering among the poor by providing them with fuel at a low price, but its educational work has been as valuable as its benevolent. "No deposits raised by charitable contributions shall be received" is one of its rules, throwing the recipients of its benefits entirely on their own resources and thus raising their self respect. Receivers are appointed in various parts of the city who enter in pass-books "any sum however small and not exceeding one dollar at any one time" that the depositors can afford to give; and after balancing the accounts on the first of November, issue orders for coal in favor of said depositors, at a rate considerably below the cost to the Society. During the past six years over \$50,000 have been received, and 11,555 tons of coal delivered to depositors at from 50 cents to \$1.00 less than cost, the deficiency being made up by income and annual contributions.

Abundant instances of the elevating effect of this plan are not wanting, and we gladly acknowledge that no new plan we can suggest ought to prevent our availing ourselves of the help of such an excellent institution.

Cards are issued by the Society, giving the regulations for depositors, and the names and addresses of Receivers. If these cards be judiciously distributed by the Visitors in the different Wards, with a word of advice fitly spoken, they may prove valuable aids in the promotion of provident habits among the poor. In order to make it possible for the working people to save a portion of their sometimes scanty wages, it has been recommended that we initiate and foster Co-operative Societies in order to reduce the cost of necessities among the poor. If 50 families club together and put in \$2.00 each, to keep up a little stock of groceries, from which each member can buy at an advantage, and outsiders can buy at ordinary rates, but with an increased assurance of good quality, a trade is assured at the start; and it is believed that there will be much substantial benefit realized. Simple co-operative measures of this kind commend themselves to our earnest attention. We cannot raise wages, but we may appreciably add to their purchasing power by helping consumers to dispense with the services of some of the "middle-men" who distribute the necessities of life to our poor friends. There are useful employments enough for the few who would be affected by giving some of these profits to the needy. Suitable Co-operative Societies when inaugurated, will be Schools of Provident Habits.

The Cooking School Movement is also to be welcomed, as it is the means of instructing the lowly in the healthful and economic preparation of food. Much is now wasted which might be made acceptable by skillful preparation for the table, and we are prepared to recommend to Ward Visitors that they use such influence, and give such instruction as they can in regard to correct principles in cooking food. It is justly claimed that we cannot expect men or women to do good work or enjoy domestic comfort, nor can we hope to see their children thrive on the badly cooked food which is now the rule and not the exception in their homes.

It is especially to be recommended that the habit of making small savings be taught to children, and we might ask the co-operation of the teachers in our public schools in this matter. It would be a great advantage if every poor child could say as did a boy in London the other day—jerking his thumb in the direction of the Savings Bank—"I banks there." Such seed would lessen depression in trade in future years. In France there are great facilities given for investing small sums in good securities, and this may account in some measure for the proverbial thrift of the French people.

The Friendly Societies of England are considered the back bone of provident habits. They number thousands of members, and handle millions of money. These societies are established by the people themselves, who, however, need that those of more business experience should go in, and set them on a firm foundation. Provident Dispensaries in England are finding great favor wherever tried. They enable a family to choose its own physician from a number belonging to the Dispensary, insuring at the same time to the doctor a reasonable compensation for his services, and making it possible for him to study the constitution of each member of the family, to the end that he may give judicious advice instead of the hurried judgment which by the present system is in many cases unavoidable. Being established by the people themselves there is no loss of self-respect or independence.

The loan system, which is a branch of the Charity Organization Society of London, has been found a wise and good way of helping the poor—tiding them over difficult times. The loans are paid back in small weekly installments. The habit of saving thus formed leads them frequently after the debt is paid, to deposit in a Savings Bank or other institution similar in character. These helpful plans can only be brought about by patient explanations which will convince those who need them of their usefulness.

Our attention has been called to George C. T. Bartley's tract upon Penny Banks in Schools in England. These are found to teach the importance of care in little matters, and the value of small savings; to teach the children at the period of life when their minds are most impressible. Seeing for themselves the important results which may be obtained by small efforts when regularly continued, they will be far less likely to go through the world as their parents have done before them—living from hand to mouth from one week's end to another. In England the Penny Savings Banks are connected with the Post Office Savings Banks, and whenever the amount paid by a depositor reaches £1, he is assisted to open a separate account in his own name at the Post Office Bank, and he will be able, if he wishes, to make subsequent payments direct to the Post Office. But as no deposit of less than one

shilling can be received at the Post Office Savings Bank, he may continue to pay into the Penny Bank as before.

To encourage teachers in elementary schools to act as collectors, they should receive a share in the interest arising from the investment of the smaller sums, since all systematic labor is found to be the most effective when the worker looks forward to a compensation.

It is thought that in our Public Schools and Saving Banks we have the facilities for this work towards the cultivation of provident habits among those in our city who are continual claimants of charitable aid. Cannot the machinery be set in action at an early day, and the good work of training the little ones of the people in the principles of economy be soon entered upon with wisdom and vigor?

The Building Associations, which are a local institution, though they have now attracted attention elsewhere, and spread to other cities, furnish other means of promoting providence among the working classes. It is supposed that there are 500 active Building Associations in Philadelphia, representing a capital of \$37,500,000, (average \$75,000 each,) and having a membership of about 100,000 persons. They are peculiarly adapted to the "City of Homes," and have the special recommendation over other provident schemes, that they aim at securing for each man the stimulus to steadiness and self-respect, that arises from owning his homestead. Their *modus operandi* also suggests, and to a certain extent enforces, a larger deposit of savings than the Savings Banks. The moneys are less likely to be withdrawn and wasted. In most cases, too, where the Association is well managed, it returns to the shareholder a larger interest on his investment. There is yet another recommendation which these Associations share with co-operative societies, that of fostering in their beneficiaries business habits, and business experience; the officers chosen from among themselves, acquiring, if they do not possess, skill in the management of affairs. This merit attaches, in some degree, to all mutual methods. The Mutual Beneficial Societies, for instance, which receive a weekly or monthly payment of small amount from each member, in consideration of which he is insured support when sick, and a decent burial, without cost to his family, at his death.

These are properly classed with other modes of promoting provident ways, of a lower grade, yet useful, especially in the case of persons of small capacity and self-reliance. We might appropriately refer, furthermore, to negative means, such as the discouragement of improvident habits, the excessive use of stimulants, chewing and smoking tobacco, and other destructive and wasteful practices. An expenditure of only ten cents per day in gratifying vicious and spendthrift propensities, would amount, in fifty years, to several thousand dollars; for a family of ten, would make away with little short of ten thousand dollars in twenty-five years, and if indulged by a whole family, whether smaller or larger, would readily account for the difference between ease and want.

It is not needful to multiply the recital of means for promoting provident habits among the poor. Many such means exist. That which is needful is, that Visitors and all concerned in the administration of true charity should realize to the full, that after employment, the recognized basis of relief, must come economy and thrift, to perpetuate and make effective the good they do;—after earning,—saving.

One who has been long engaged in earnest charitable effort for the poor, writes:

"Provident habits are acquired through education. One of the world's thinkers has written that 'education should be an endeavor to make a man change from one habit to a better.' It is this desire for best or better things that must be awakened in the man and kept from being crushed out in the child. Show him that it is possible to be lifted out of the mire of degradation, and that by patience, self-denial and frugality, he may win back his lost hope and become a man again. The power must come from within. The divine in man must assert its right to rule and control, before any substantial gain can be made. To direct wisely the shiftless, degraded pauper; to stimulate the weak, irresolute, ill-fed laborer; and to awaken in both a sense of their accountability, and of their responsibility to live right and noble lives, must be our effort; and if we but lead one soul from the ways of error, the effort is not in vain."

Mr. J. Hambleton, Chairman of a special *Committee on Loans* of the 5th Ward Association, then read the following paper on

LOANS AS A MEANS OF RELIEF AND OF PROMOTING PROVIDENT HABITS.

We propose to show some of the advantages of Loans as a means of relief and of promoting provident habits. This, probably, cannot be done in a better manner than by relating, briefly, the results of the experience of the Loan Committee of the 5th Ward Association.

As by far the larger part of the destitute become so by indolence, intemperance, or improvidence, there is but a small part of them with

whom loans would be successful or suitable; but there are worthy, honest, industrious persons who, by sickness or accident, or other misfortune, become destitute, where a small loan will bridge over their temporary distress, and enable them to resume their occupation when physically able to do so. For this class loans are better than anything else. While the latter are demoralizing the moral effect of the former is elevating.

The repayment of the loan in small installments enables the borrowers to practice such economy and industry that, when repaid, they have acquired a habit of thrift that often enables them to take care of themselves, even under future misfortune.

These loans being made on the principle of a loan, without bonus or interest, but with security, they are not demoralizing or degrading in the transaction, if properly managed.

A short time after the organization of the 5th Ward Association, the Directors appointed a Committee of two, to make loans to applicants. It was deemed best to have these loans made by the *Committee*, and not have the applicants come to the office of the Association, as has been the case in England. The experience of the Committee has shown the wisdom of this plan. Those to whom loans are usually possess some character and conscience, and of course their names registered in the office-books, classed with men who are not for grants of coal, groceries, and soup. Thus, in making loans, self-respect is maintained, and they are better fitted to adopt economy and self-dependence.

A Committee of two, only, has been found to transact business more easily than a larger number. In April, 1879, a fund of \$1000 was furnished to the Committee by the Directors, from which 25 loans have been made, up to the 31st of October, 1880.

The total amount of loans is \$210.00; of re-payments, \$169.66; paid, and due, \$19.59; unpaid, not yet due, \$20.84; total, unpaid, cash on hand, \$59.66.

There are 8 loans of \$10 each; 2 of \$7; 4 of \$6; 7 of \$5; 1 of \$2; 1 of \$50.

\$20.25 of the repayment of loans was made by sureties; \$149.41 by borrowers themselves.

Three loans were made on account of a death in the family. Two of these, at least, would otherwise have been obliged to apply to the Guardians of the Poor. Eight loans were made to begin, or resume, a small business, viz.: 3 peddlers; 1 fruit-dealer; 2 tailors; 1 news-dealer; 1 paper-box maker. These were mostly worthy, industrious persons, who, by sickness or other misfortune, had been obliged to use all their money, and some had pawned valuables besides; so that, when physically able to resume business, they were without the means of doing so. Three loans were made to assist in paying rent, there being good cause for arrears. One loan of \$10 was made to prevent a constable's sale of household goods for rent. Doubts were entertained of the ability of this woman to repay; but all but one dollar has been returned, and no one has shown more gratitude for a loan, or been more stimulated by it.

Two loans were to enable the borrowers to get suitable clothing to enter upon situations just obtained. The largest loans made (except one) are \$10; larger loans, as a general rule, being considered by the Committee beyond their means. The exceptional loan was one of \$50, but was an entirely safe one. A man, recently from England, wanted \$50 to get his family over. Having a good situation, at \$20 per week, his employer went his security, and the loan was promptly repaid. Only two loans have been repaid by installments less than 50 cents: these two being 25 cents. The trouble experienced in collecting these latter will, probably, prevent the Committee, in future, from accepting less than 50 cent installments. Saturday evening has, usually, been found to be the best time for requiring payment of installments to be made. Two applicants for loans proved to be impostors, giving a false address. The number would no doubt be much larger if it were generally known, among this class, that we were making loans.

It is impossible, at present, to state precisely the loss that may result; but the Committee estimate it will not be over 3 per cent. of the amount loaned. If the loss should average 5 per cent. the Committee would be able to make about 120 loans, of the average amount already made, amounting to over \$1,000, before the appropriation of \$100 would be exhausted.

This may be regarded as a fair estimate, and this part of the work of the Society for Organizing Charity shows what a large amount of relief and moral good can be accomplished in the inculcation of provident habits with a small expenditure. Yet greater results are accomplished in other branches of the work, where the expenses are large in proportion to direct relief furnished, where the moral good done cannot be shown by figures, as it can be with loans; where there is a vast amount

of voluntary work done, and much moral influence exercised, that the public, generally, can know but little about.

HOW TO MAKE LOANS SUCCESSFUL.

1st. By strict investigation; 2nd, formality of negotiating loans, thus impressing the minds of borrowers with the obligation incurred, and preventing loans being too easily obtained; 3rd, absolute requirement of security, in all cases, by sureties who are in a social condition similar to the borrower. This invites friendly and neighborly assistance, and a sense of responsibility; 4th, requirement of weekly payments of not less than 50 cents each; 5th, in visiting borrowers, or serving a legal notice on surety when payments are neglected; 6th, work. Loans cannot be judiciously made without sufficient investigation to assure the Committee that applicants are comparatively honest and conscientious, and have a fair prospect of being able to repay the loan, and that their needy condition has not been caused by indolence, intemperance, or altogether by improvidence.

So long as a person has a conscience we have some hold on him, and a fair chance of obtaining repayment. The obligation felt, however, towards the friend or neighbor, who may be the surety, is a very strong incentive, and the borrower in default, when notified that his surety will be called upon, rarely fails to respond. The Committee are much gratified at the good neighborly stimulus these loans with surety exert, and in the dignity with which the transaction is viewed. It is very important to the success of Loans that they should not be too easily obtained. It is a general principle, in all pecuniary transactions, that money easily acquired is easily spent, and, in many such cases, it does more harm than good. Loans obtained by the mere asking, without any formality of negotiation, would not be appreciated, nor, as a rule, promptly paid. Instead of elevating, they would degrade; instead of promoting provident habits, they would make the borrower more shiftless. If it became known, generally, that money could be so easily obtained, the Committee would be overrun with unworthy applicants.

All borrowers are, therefore, required to sign an I. O. U., drawn up with as much legal formality as if the amount loaned were thousands of dollars. To this is attached another legal form for a surety to sign, waiving the right of exemption; both of which are properly witnessed. Our experience has, we think, demonstrated the necessity of requiring security, without exception. This also corresponds with the experience of Loan Committees in England; while there has been considerable loss when Loans have been made without security. Where the requirement of security has been absolute, losses have averaged only 2 and 3 per cent. with several Committees.

Our Committee, (following the form prescribed by the London Society), for the first few months, required borrowers to sign, also, an application for the Loan. This was found to be too much "red tape", and the application-form was dispensed with. The contract of borrower and surety are sufficient both to bind the parties, and to impress the borrower with the obligation assumed.

It is very necessary that borrowers should, by these and other means, be so impressed that they will realize the responsibility which they incur; and that, if they would retain their self-respect, character and conscience, they must repay promptly.

The Loan business, like everything else of value to society or individuals, requires work by the Committee. The great results already accomplished by the Charity Organization Society of this city, in all its branches, is due, principally, to the labor, time, and thought devoted to it by a few individuals. We say few, because we always find, in every association for charity, religion, or patriotism, the majority do but little work. They like an easy situation: they would do good, and help their fellow-men, if they could do so without too much exertion. But Loans, to be successful, require thought, management, time, labor, and method. Investigation must be made, by conversation with applicants, and by inquiry from their neighbors, grocers, and references, to ascertain their true character. Formality must be observed in arranging the Loan, or applicants will annoy the Committee when busily occupied with other business. Borrowers will not all be prompt in repayments, and must be visited and reasoned with, or the surety notified. All these things must be patiently borne.

There is one feature of the Loan business, however, that is a credit to human nature, and repays, in a measure, for the annoyance of the work: most of those to whom we have loaned have expressed a wonderful degree of gratitude and thanks, for the small sums obtained.

In addition to the great benefit it has been to them in relieving them from temporary distress, (in some cases avoiding the necessity of pawning goods, and enabling them to resume work or business,) the Committee are assured that, in most cases, the borrower's conscience and character have been strengthened, and habits of thrift have been evidently

established: sufficiently so, with some, to do away with the necessity of asking for assistance again.

Finally, the Committee believe there is no part of the Society's work wherein so much can be accomplished with \$100, and with so little expense and loss, as can be done through Loans; and, though we have not found the work altogether easy we are not weary in well doing.

Mr. J. C. Biddle, 7th Ward, reported that a small Loan Agency was connected with that Association, and was productive of much good, and that all sums loaned had been repaid.

Mrs. John Lucas, of the 10th Ward, asked for specific cases of successful treatment by loans, as needed to aid the judgment of other Wards in adopting the Loan system; and

Mr. Hambleton described several striking instances of self-help and thrift instigated by Loans in the experience of his Committee.

Messrs. J. H. Atwood, R. Blankenburg, and J. R. Sypher, questioned the wisdom of requiring sureties from those in the same class of life as the borrowers, as likely to involve others in distress in case of failure of the principals to pay; and suggesting that in their stead the endorsement of Visitors and Directors might be substituted.

Mr. Garrett thought that such details should be left entirely with the Ward Committees to decide in each case whether the greater moral stimulus would be applied by equals or members of the Society becoming security. He urged the deeper consideration of Provident Habits for the poor on the part of all of our Ward Boards, and the application of means therefor in all cases under their treatment, as the only cure for pauperism. The rich man has usually become rich through his provident habits; but if the working man earns large wages, and has no systematic habits of economy and thrift, it is as bad for him as though his wages were insufficient for support. We cannot raise the wages of the laboring classes, but we can do them a better turn by teaching them to make their wages go further, and to save them up against a rainy day.

The facilities for putting savings in Savings Banks are proportionately less in Philadelphia than in any other prominent city, and we have here but little idea of the vast amount of savings thus accumulated. The deposits in the Savings Banks of the United States exceed the capital of all the National and State Banks of the country. The extent of the provision of this character here are not creditable to Philadelphia. There are but 3 large Savings Banks in the City (except one at Germantown), and these are all on Walnut and Chestnut streets. It is impossible for workmen from all over the city to travel so far to make deposits. Our Ward Associations could overcome this difficulty by opening penny or dime Savings Agencies, and keeping accounts with their small depositors, and in turn depositing in bulk in the large Savings Banks to the credit of the Association in trust.

Mr. Atwood claimed that allowance should be made in regard to this deficiency in Philadelphia, because of so many mechanics and laborers owning their houses. He estimated that there were not less than 30,000 such men living in their own houses worth an average of \$1,000 each, making total earnings of \$30,000,000 in this kind of investment. Savings Bank depositors can withdraw and spend their money, but the Philadelphia mechanic has his locked up in a house where he cannot spend it. The 7th Ward has already a department for receiving the small savings of their beneficiaries, the aggregate of which they deposit in one of the Banks for Savings.

Mrs. Spencer Roberts, of the 12th Ward, trusted that attention would not be diverted from the class below those making savings, and who so often may be benefitted by loans. They have found loans very valuable as a mode of relief, and those thus assisted have been kept faithful to their promises of re-payment, and thus has been laid with many a groundwork of establishing provident habits. They have taken security on the property of the borrowers with good effect.

Prof. R. E. Thompson, of the 30th Ward, considered our city better off with its small homes than if it had a better supply of Savings Banks, as the latter have so often been managed upon the hard earnings of the poor, for the benefit of the rich, and so often lose money on their investments. The workmen's own homes were the Philadelphia Savings Banks, and the figures concerning them were a credit to Philadelphia.

In regard to the danger of asking neighbors to stand security, there was equal danger in letting a man borrow. The Society encourages Loans under proper conditions, yet many more people had been wrecked by borrowing money themselves than by going security for others. The principle of using this neighborly element is a most valuable one, and the 5th Ward deserves great credit for bringing it out. We were told, at first, that there was no need to organize the Delaware river Wards, because they were so full of poor that they could only be cared for by tacking them on to the richer Wards; but in many ways they had become our teachers. This mode of taking personal security enables us

to use the stimulus of friendship, and is the very best way of lifting the needy up to self-respect. The neighbor who acts as surety merely assumed the right to be watchful and helpful, and to urge and aid his friend to fulfill his obligations. Was that demoralizing? Of course the Society does not mean to play the Shylock, and to take the law to force payment. They do not intend more than is reasonable, and expect to take some risks. We cannot repose any confidence in our fellow men without taking risks; nor gain any moral benefit without it.

Mrs. Lucas, from living six months of the year among working people, and carefully studying their habits, was convinced that the personal security adopted by the 5th Ward was the best in its effects that could be devised.

Rev. Dr. Wayland, of 27th Ward, thought that Savings Banks had many advantages over Building Associations for small savings. The members of the latter have to submit to the shrinkages in the value of Real Estate; and Building Associations also lose money as well as Savings Banks. When the Banks are honestly managed the depositor knows just where he is, and can get his money in case of need. The Building Associations offer no opportunity for husbanding very small savings. The man with \$5 cannot go far in buying a brown-stone house, but it makes a very good beginning in a Savings Bank; and there is vast benefit in inducing the *beginning* of small earnings, and these being made the man can afterwards buy his house. Many are on the ragged edge of pauperism, and a little rightly done at the right time is worth everything in keeping them from becoming paupers.

Mr. Hambleton farther explained the great benefit of using the personal security, and no case of hardship has ever occurred in their experience to any surety. The moral security is, by their experience, far better than property security, and experience is a sufficient answer to all the objections imagined. It has stimulated many, after paying up their loans, to continue their savings for the fuel and family stores for future seasons, and established a habit of forecast and thrift.

Mr. Garrett farther answered the objections to Savings Banks, and illustrated their benefits by examples. They take the small capital of 100 workmen, which they could not invest individually, and secure the best investments that the market offers; and often in mortgages on poor men's houses, enabling them to purchase their homes; and in Government bonds for the benefit of the whole country.

A Committee was then appointed to report the names of 7 persons who shall be nominated by the Assembly to the Annual Meeting for election to the Board of Directors of the Society, to take the place of those whose terms of office expire at that time. The Committee reported the names of Messrs. A. C. Deakney, M.D., Thos. S. Harrison, Thos. C. Hand, jr., Theodore Starr, Josiah R. Sypher, Albert B. Williams, Rob't N. Willson.

And on motion these names were accepted as the nomination of the Assembly, *nem con.* The Assembly then adjourned.

THOMAS HUGHES, ESQ., M. P.,

DESCRIBES THE LONDON CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

PHILADELPHIA, OCT. 26, 1880.

Thomas Hughes, LL.D., addressed the SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY this afternoon, at Association Hall, speaking before an audience that completely packed the platform, parquet and every tier in the upper part of the house. The platform was filled with men and women occupying prominent relations to the Educational, Charitable and Correctional interests of the City. Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presided, and introduced Mr. Hughes, remarking that the Society had been called together to listen to words of counsel from one whose name had long been associated with works of Charity and reform for the benefit of working men and women.

Mr. Hughes then came forward and said:

I feel great difficulty in addressing this vast meeting, and trying to tell what I know about a subject which no doubt has a strong hold on this public, though perhaps less needed here than in England. I confess I had not the slightest idea that the subject would excite the sort of interest which it appears to excite in Philadelphia. I am only too glad to think that such a wide interest is taken in the cause. My only difficulty is to know how I am to employ the time which you will devote to me to any useful purpose.

There is one thing, however, that one can always speak of, and that is his own experience. It is more than a quarter of a century since I went up to live in London, the place where more human beings are trying to live together than in any other city in the world. Whether Babylon or Nineveh or Rome was as big or bigger than London, is still an open question; but I believe those best entitled to be heard are agreed that in no part of the world at any time or place did four millions of people ever

try to live together before. And if I should tell you what is in the bottom of my mind I should say I hope they never would try it again.

It is by no means certain what answer will be given to the problem. The difficulties multiply so fast. I first lived in a part of London where, when the air blew from the south-west, we used to smell the new mown hay. Now there is nothing of the kind. The south-west wind brings to us much the same odors as the east. In the same way many social problems have arisen which have to be dealt with in the most careful manner.

STREET BEGGARS.

I was accustomed as a boy in the country to live familiarly with the poor, as one always does in English country villages; but when I came to London I soon found that impossible. The way in which I was brought into contact with beggars put me to great trials in the street to decide whether to render help or not. At first I was unable to resist the pitiful stories I heard, and, so far as my means went, I used to relieve all the beggars who addressed me in the streets. That custom, however, I very soon left off. I made up my mind never to relieve a mendicant without going to his home to see if he told a true tale. I regret to say that in nine cases out of ten the beggar either slipped away, or, when I got to his home, I found his story false. Now and then I would find a true case, but seldom.

That was the first great discouragement I had, and was my first great lesson on the necessity of some organized method of dealing with the poor.

VOTING CHARITIES.

Then I tried another method of approach to these social evils and difficulties. I became a member of the governing body of a great charity to help a specific class of persons. Here I found more encouragement, but even here there was a side which soon showed me that much was to be learned. The system of voting was then prevalent. According to your subscription you were assigned a certain number of votes, which you could bestow in favor of any candidate preferred, and in this case, as in others, this voting had come to be a regular system of electioneering, and was more exciting than any ordinary election. People took great trouble to canvass for votes; they even made payments for them so as to get their candidates in. The consequence was that, magnificent as these charities are both in size and work, even into such foundations abuses have crept in; and the charities are not used for the benefit of the people for whom they were originally intended.

MEDICAL CHARITIES.

A third experience went far toward convincing me of the necessity of some such society as yours. I became a member of the governing body of a hospital which offered all its advantages free. Supplied by voluntary contributions, patients were not required to make any payment, and the noble profession of medicine, as always, was ready for any amount of self-sacrifice to promote science or to do good. But looking carefully into the details of the management of this institution I found many among the patients of a rank in life who had no right to be there. It was actually a fact that people in good circumstances accepted the benevolent aid and the services of the physicians, who had not the slightest claim to charitable relief.

ORGANIZED METHODS.

The accumulation of all this evidence convinced me, with many others, that to give help to the poor really was a difficult profession, and required a very different system, and that certainly giving without due precaution did more harm than good. I also concluded that the large gifts of money, often cited as an honor to our country, when made without careful inquiry or self-sacrifice in seeing how the money went, was a crime against the community rather than a help to it. When no personal trouble is taken to see where alms go the mere subscription of money is only a personal indulgence and a relief to the feelings, which will never do good to the country or the poor.

This experience of mine was so widely the experience of many who were anxious to do what they could that we came to the conclusion that the only thing to do was to put some systematic method of charity into operation so that the funds might be used economically and for the purpose originally intended.

This is the history of the foundation of the Charity Organization Society of London. Its existence of a considerable number of years has been a chequered one. We had little idea at first of the very great difficulties in our way of bringing it to anything like a successful issue.

OPPOSITION.

The first and greatest was the alarm and opposition of a number of excellent persons; charitable people and clergymen, and those in connection with churches. And a very different kind of antagonism came from another quarter, and that was a strong opposition of the officers

and persons employed by the great charitable societies. The difficulties of the work itself were also very formidable. Members of Christian congregations and churches were alarmed at the idea of considering any kind of almsgiving as not for man's good and God's glory. That was difficult to overcome, but we felt that it must be overcome, and we succeeded. Of course, almsgiving was an important duty. We said that all we contended for was that care must be taken, and we said that if the churches went on in the old way, they would find it was not Christian work, but mischief; that they were relieving over and over again those who had no claim, while the needy cases were left untouched.

SUCCESS.

Although there is still a feeling of distrust in some quarters (a feeling that they are rather hard in their rules and very strict in their scrutiny), yet I am very happy to say, that the great body of clergy and the religious world has at last frankly come around and are now in direct communication with the officers of the Society. The Society is now so completely organized, that it leaves nothing to be desired so far as information goes. They have command of the different channels of information in respect to the great mass of the poor, and you can rely upon getting trustworthy knowledge as to the case of any poor person in any given district. The method by which this has been accomplished is one which will have to be followed wherever the attempt is made to organize charitable relief. There is a Central Office at which books of reference are kept, and where there is a small staff of salaried officers who conduct the inquiries of the central society; and besides that, the Charity Organization Society has established in every parish of London a District Committee of voluntary workers. We have no difficulty in finding persons of high cultivation and experience, men in professions and a very great number of young men of fortune in filling up this Committee, and that, I think, has been one of the great causes of the success of this movement. We do not use our money to pay salaries.* The result is that in any quarter of London, if a person applies to you for relief, you can in the course of a very few hours obtain absolutely trustworthy information whether the story which has been told you is true or untrue.

These Charity Organization Societies are also formed in nearly all the large British cities and towns, and through the system of regular correspondence maintained with them, begging letter-writers, the shrewdest and most persistent of professional mendicants, now have no chance of making a living in England. The streets of London are almost entirely free from beggars, and the clergy say that the independence of poor people has been very much raised.

At the conclusion of Mr. Hughes' address the thanks of the audience, moved by Hon. Daniel M. Fox, were tendered the distinguished speaker and humanitarian.

*Mr. Hughes here alluded to the Honorary Secretaries and the members of the District Committees, who are equivalent to the Chairmen of Ward Boards and to the Directors and Visitors of the Philadelphia Society. These all serve gratuitously in London as in Philadelphia. He afterwards explained that he did not intend to be understood that no wages were paid for Inquiry Agents (equivalent to our Ward Superintendents,) and for office work. He thought no one would infer that such systematic and expert service, as was needed for administering details, could be procured without compensation.

The last complete report sent to us of the 38 London District Committees (that for 1877,) shows that they paid in salaries to their Inquiry Officers and clerks in that year £5,076.16.8, or \$25,384.17,—an average of \$668 for each District Office. The Philadelphia Ward Superintendents receive an average of about \$250.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TRAINING NURSES FOR THE SICK POOR.

Mrs. Florence (Lees) Craven, the worthy successor of Miss Florence Nightingale, writes to our General Secretary in behalf of the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association of London, offering to receive and train a suitable person to act as Superintendent of a Nurse Training School, if one should be sent over to London for that purpose. There would be no charge except £5, monthly, for full board and washing; the necessary uniform dresses, lectures and personal training by Mrs. Craven and her associates, being all gratuitous. Mrs. Craven is training ladies for Germany, Austria, etc., and is so anxious that the usefulness of her admirable Association should be extended as widely as possible, that she makes this very kind offer, to which will be added, if desired, admittance into the best London Hospital Training Schools. The phase of Charity which furnishes skilled nurses for the Sick Poor in their own homes has not, as yet, received the same attention in this country which it has in Europe, and it offers a wide field for benevolent persons desiring to work in some new unoccupied department. In England this specific work dates from the close of the Crimean War, and is the continuation of Miss Nightingale's work there: and it is felt, both by the physicians and the

afflicted families, that when one of this Society's Nurses enters the abode of the Sick Poor, the case at once loses half its horrors, and no longer has to contend with bad hygiene, uncleanness, and the ignorance which is so apt to aggravate the disease, nullify the doctor's skill, and make the family speedy pensioners on the benevolent public. If, as is maintained, the larger part of the mortality among the poor could be averted by good nursing, such high-class nursing as this Society offers is far more valuable in the homes of the poor than in those of the rich. Mr. Thomas Hughes applies to the work of these nurses these beautiful lines:

"The den they entered formed a shrine—
Their cup of water warm'd like wine!"

CONSOLIDATED WARD RETURNS FOR YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 1, 1880.

I. RELIEF WITHHELD.	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE.
Vagrants.....	516	290	44 Dec.
Referred to their own Wards.....	1,755	727	59 "
Not requiring relief.....	1,481	529	64 "
Undeserving.....	1,057	246	77 "
Ineligible.....	122	69	43 "
False address.....	216	51	76 "
Total.....	5,147	1,912	

II. OBTAINED FROM OTHER SOURCES.	1879.	1880.	PER CENTAGE.
Guardians of the Poor.....	693	209	70 Dec.
Institutions and Local Agencies.....	361	319	11 "
Private Persons.....	26	29	12 Inc.
Total.....	1,080	557	

III. RELIEVED BY WARD ASSOCIATIONS	1879.	1880.	PERCENTAGE
By grants of food, fuel, etc.....	19,607	9,319	52 Dec.
By loans.....	22	39	77 Inc.
By employment.....	357	708	98 "
Total.....	19,986	10,066	
Value of grants.....	\$18,069.88	\$8,781.01	51 Dec.
Value of loans.....	11.65	144.00	1136 Inc.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

Alluding to the supervision of the District Offices which, under our system, is given chiefly by the Committees on Decision of Relief, the Annual Report of the London Charity Organization Society says: "This supervision is of vital importance. It cannot be given in a perfunctory manner. It entails presence at an office for some hours, daily; business capacity, and special instruction in the method and principles of the Society, and in the functions of the Poor Law and of the Charities. Comparatively few persons have the leisure and inclination to undertake this honorary work. To the devotion and patience of those who have undertaken it the success of the Society is largely due."* They have shown that on this honorary leadership depends the whole progress of charity organization, the enrolment of persons in each district who will be able to deal with the cases in detail and bestow on them remedial care, and the success of the conflict with indiscriminate and unwise alms-giving; and they have urged that when it is not forthcoming, superior agents, who can, under less supervision, be entrusted with the work of the office, should be appointed and held responsible for its proper discharge. The Council would under these circumstances ask again for more personal help of all kinds. Charity Organization is not mere investigation and detection; it is diagnosis and the art of healing. It requires tact, tenderness, and firmness, and readiness of resource. It brings men and women into contact with the unfortunate and affords endless opportunities of doing good. The battle with pauperism is a cause worthy of the best intellect and the most untiring energy. In the words of Carlyle, 'Where there is a pauper there is sin; to make one pauper go many sins. Pauperism is social sin made manifest.' "If the recipients of begging letters were to make it a rule to

It was to this supervision that Mr. Hughes alluded in his address when he stated that they paid no salaries. Nor does the Philadelphia, or any American Charity Organization Society. Those supervising the work are, however, expected to employ competent persons to perform the details of the labor which they direct and oversee.

transmit them to this Society, the writers would be unable to continue to trade on the indolence of their patrons, and the sums which now flow to them in response to their appeals would be, instead of wasted, effectively utilized. The Organization of Charity is the soundest method of repressing mendicity."

EXTRACT FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE IN THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION REPORTER OF MAY 6.

The St. Olave's Branch of the London Charity Organization Society have made a decided step in advance. Not content with simply assisting such cases as come before them, they are endeavoring to organize thoroughly the charitable relief in their district. This, Mr. ——— talks of as meddling. But for what else, may I ask, does this Society exist? To get all the money you can into your own hands and then to distribute it among deserving people, as Mr. ——— proposes, may be all very well for a relief Society, but it has no place in the programme of a Society for Organizing Charitable Relief. Organized Charitable Relief in its ultimate perfection would do away with the necessity of appeals to charity save under exceptional circumstances. 'The poor ye have always with you.' No perversion of words will prove that those who willfully spend a large part of their earnings in dissipation are to be allowed to be equally well treated with those whom unavoidable misfortune has overtaken. To discriminate between these two classes, and to assist the benevolent rightly to dispense their alms, is the work of the true Organization of Charitable Relief. This is a very different thing from taking it out of their hands and saying, 'Give us your alms; we will dispense them for you and save you all the trouble.' I allow it is very much easier, and I dare say, to some minds pleasanter, to sit in a committee room with plenty of money at your command and salve wounds by the administration of so many shillings. But will this course of proceeding be as likely to produce permanent good in the case of the recipients themselves and of their neighbors, as if others were consulted with a view to plans of permanent improvement being elaborated? In short, I fear that money is too often administered in the same way that a glass of gin is too often taken. Do let us remember that charity and money-giving are two perfectly distinct things. An enormous amount of charity may be done without the direct expenditure of one single half-penny, and an enormous amount of money may be expended in relief without carrying with it one action of charity.

NOTES.

There is no truth more worthy of being continually presented to the young and established in their hearts than that the very best kind of help is self-help. We are all inclined to exaggerate the importance of the help to be obtained from others, and to underrate that which comes from within. Conscientious parents and teachers undertake to do so much for the children that there is but little left for the children to do for themselves. They form and direct their minds, guide and control their actions, mould and shape their destinies so largely, that the young insensibly acquire the habit of leaning upon the strength and judgment of others, and do not develop the power of standing upright in their own. The same thing may be observed in relations which have other inequalities beside those of age. The poor *lean* against the rich, the idle and shiftless against the industrious and provident, the awkward and slow against the skillful and capable, the dull and indifferent against the bright and enthusiastic. Those who are conscious of inferiority, instead of being spurred on to extra exertions, seem to take it for granted that some one else is to make up their deficiencies, and what they cannot, or think they cannot do for themselves, they have a right to expect others to do for them.—*Phila. Public Ledger*.

St. Martin was the Patron Saint of beggars, but did not encourage mendicancy, and the virtue in him survived in his bones to cure the ailments which led to beggary. Now when the body of the saint was being brought to Tours there were two cripples who heard of its healing powers; but they had so long enjoyed a comfortable subsistence on the wayside from charity that they did not wish to be healed. They hobbled off to try to get out of Touraine where the potency was abroad, but the virtue overtook them, and they were healed despite of themselves. On the spot where the beggars thus lost their whole stock in trade a chapel was built, and near it is an iron sign announcing that "Mendicancy is interdicted in the Indre and Loire."—*Atlantic Monthly*.

N. B.—A friend of the Society offers to assist some deserving man, who may need such aid, to procure an artificial leg. Having a keen sympathy for those who have been deprived of a limb, he desires to put his sympa-

thy into tangible form in this manner. If any of our Superintendents or Visitors should have such a case come under their notice, not otherwise provided for, and for whose worthiness they can vouch, and will advise the General Secretary of the particulars, he will at once put them in communication with the gentleman who makes the kind offer.

Conference Hour.—In order to give every facility within their power for the promotion of co-operation among all the benevolent public of Philadelphia, the Board of Directors have appointed 4 to 5.30 P. M., of every Tuesday and Friday as a regular CONFERENCE HOUR, wherein our own Central Directors, all Ward Directors and Visitors, and all others interested in Charitable Work are invited to meet for Conference and inquiry.

CASES.

LIGHT EMPLOYMENT is wanted for a Scotchman about 40 years old with wife and 5 children. He is very feeble from aneurism above the heart, and cannot use tools or do heavy work. Has been a ship carpenter. Would make a faithful watchman or fill any position needing a trusty man. Also for an

American about 35 years old, with wife and 3 small children. He has one wooden leg and cannot get around very fast. He is willing and ambitious to do any work suited to his infirmity. Has no trade, but is bright and would be generally useful.

Both are highly recommended for worthiness, and employment will save both from being a burden on the charitable community.

Case No. 51.—A respectable young farmer and wife applied to 9th Ward office for railroad tickets to Oswego county, New York, saying they had come in search of work, were disappointed, and had no means of support here or of returning home. References to reputable citizens at home were given, and correspondence at once opened, the couple being meanwhile maintained by the Association for several days at comfortable lodgings. Simultaneous efforts were made to find work for them here. Replies were received, giving them unexceptionable characters, and at same time good situations were found for both together on an estate in the suburbs: thus enabling the Society to vouch for them, and to save them the expense and mortification of returning home disappointed.

Case No. 52.—An educated man, of about 35, asked for assistance to reach New York because unable to procure clerical work here which was offered to him there. He produced a card stating his connection with religious enterprises, and also a recommendation from a respectable gentleman. On learning that his story must, under the rules, be verified, and that, meanwhile, the Ward Association would maintain him, and then send him on if all was right, he indignantly refused to be corroborated and left, with threats to expose the Society for refusing to do a free trade in railroad passes on unsupported statements.

Case No. 54.—A woman, 71 years of age, once well off, had become reduced, step by step, and confined to her bed by sickness, requiring the constant attendance of a daughter, whose earnings were thus cut off. She knew she must die, and her mind, although prepared for that, was disturbed as to her burial. The Ward Superintendent assured her of a decent funeral, and she soon died. The body could not be buried from the fourth story room of the tenement where they had lived, so it was brought to the Ward Office, and prepared for the grave by gentle hands. A lot was procured in Mount Moriah, and the promise kept of a decent burial; the expense being defrayed by a special contribution. The very help needed was given, in this case, at a cost of much time and thought, but without using the funds of the Association, directly, for a cent; illustrating, as one case out of hundreds, "where the money goes" that is given, by kind and thoughtful citizens to support the Ward Offices.

We want a CORRESPONDENT and a SOLICITOR in every city where there are friends of Organized or Associated Charity.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail	
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25		\$ 1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....		3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]			
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10		.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25		.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50		.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50	.60	
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.60		.65

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 2. }
WHOLE NO. 14. }

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 15, 1880.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms Fifty cents a year, and a reduction for large orders.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the poor; it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
- 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
- 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The Gen. Sec., Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 North 4th St., or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut St.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Wm. S. Stokley (*ex-officio*)

WARD.	VICE-PRESIDENTS.	WARD.
3. A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,	11. J. Christian Miller,	20. Wm. Y. Colladay,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,	12. W. Fred. Snyder,	22. Jabez Gates,
5. Wm. S. Price,	13. Jas. V. Watson,	23. Samuel Bolton,
6. Thomas M. Seeds,	14. Henry M. Laing,	27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
7. R. C. McMurtrie,	15. Geo. Burnham,	28. Rev. C. H. Kimball,
8. Alexander Brown,	16. I. A. Sheppard,	29. Geo. W. Simons,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,	18. John Clouds,	30. A. A. Catanach,
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,	19. A. H. Overholt,	31. Robert Mair,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.		
H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)	Nelson F. Evans,	Rev. D. Otis Kellogg, D.D.,
Joshua L. Baily (V. Pres.)	Philip C. Garrett,	Theodore Starr,
John H. Atwood,	Wm. B. Hackenbush,	Josiah R. Sypher,
Rudolph Blankenburg,	Thos. C. Hand, Jr.,	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,	Thos. S. Harrison,	Geo. N. Torrence,
H. T. Child, M.D.,	Samuel Huston,	Albert B. Williams,
A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,	Wm. V. Keating, M.D.,	Robt. N. Willson.

MEETINGS UNTIL DECEMBER 15TH.

Friday,	December 24,	5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	December 27,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	January 3,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Monday,	January 10,	10 A. M., Women's General Conference.†
Monday,	January 10,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

WHAT IS CHARITY ORGANIZATION?

That large and valuable class of our fellow-citizens, who know so much already that it is impossible to get anything new into their heads, are evidently not to be changed in their opinion of Charity Organization. They have a representative in the *New York Tribune*, which returns to this subject with amusing pertinacity, not to correct and retract the gross errors which have been shown in its previous attempts, but to pour out a new series of them. When shown to have confounded our Central Office with the relief agencies of the society, it never confessed the fact; it only passed into the waste-basket all the communications which pointed out its error, and then attacked some of the Ward Associations on the equally false assumption that their Treasury accounts were a complete exhibit of the relief work they had done during the winter. When called to account on this head it preserved several months of silence without once allowing the readers of the paper to know what a tissue of unjust crimination it had given them under the pretence of truth and fact.

The last attack of the *Tribune* which we have seen makes two points.

(1) That Charity Organization is a sort of sop to the conscience as regards the personal duties we owe to the poor. The man who contributes to the Ward Treasury knows nothing of those whom his benefactions reach, and the whole plan is one by which the well-to-do manage to get off their minds the poor and dependent classes.

Now the first object of Charity Organization is just to secure to the poor and the dependent that measure of kind and neighborly attention, of which unorganized charity deprives them. It is the twenty-five cents on the street and the plate of cold victuals at the door that are the unworthy devices by which we get such people out of sight and out of mind. If such objectors were to drop in at a meeting of the ladies in one of our Wards, they would see that the grandest achievement of our society has been the enlistment of hundreds of good and noble women to go among the poor, not as patrons and benefactors, but as friends and neighbors, to help them by every sort of friendly sympathy. The women thus enlisted do not represent any one class or circle of society. The rich and the poor meet together—the German woman who owns the corner bakery with the wife of the rich banker, the woman of color with her white sisters—to devise the best ways of helping the poor out of their dependence when such help is possible. Our city has always had such women. Matthew Carey gives the names of a goodly number in the account of the Charities of Philadelphia, which he published in 1829. But their number has not been, until the organization of our society, adequate to the needs of our rapidly-growing city, and the object of our society is to see that every social necessity of this sort shall be met as fully as the case demands.

(2) A second objection is that the Organized Charities have absurd rules, which prevent them reaching the real needs of the poor. It instances the case of a poor woman, who was sent from office to office because each of them was forbidden by their rules from giving her the aid she needed. She had a sewing-machine in pawn, and none of them had any money to get sewing-machines out of pawn. Be it noticed that this occurred, not in Philadelphia, but in a city which has no organized system of charity—merely isolated charities, organized for special purposes and bound by special rules. The first rule of Organized Charity is to avoid all such limitations and to keep its funds free to meet and relieve every kind of real want. The getting a poor woman's sewing-machine or a poor man's kit of tools out of pawn is a good work which several of our Associations have already engaged in. Others have given a convalescent baker a barrel of flour to resume business, or have set up a poor woman in a small way in a store, or have helped a one-armed soldier to start the business of selling newspapers. The older relief societies could not do

this for obvious reasons. But there is no good work for the poor which Organized Charity can not undertake.

There was once a *Tribune*, whose editor kept it open to the presentation of every good cause. He was a man who *considered* the poor. He is said to have spent nights in pondering the problem of providing homes for the poor on the flats which lie in the vicinity of that city, and thus enable them to escape from the horrible tenement houses into more wholesome surroundings. But he is gone, and the "*Tribune* founded by Horace Greeley" now distinguishes itself by attacks upon all advanced ideas of charity, and by refusing the friends of those ideas any opportunity of correcting its gross misrepresentations.

CHILDREN'S REFORMATORIES.

We have received a number of reports of British Reformatories for delinquent children and depraved girls, from which our workers and other citizens interested in this subject can gather many valuable suggestions, based upon the experience of fellow-laborers in the same department in other fields. One of our earnest desires is to be serviceable to those giving thought and work and study in any special branch of benevolent enterprise by offering to them, through our library, the latest conclusions of the experienced judgment of others similarly engaged in other parts of the world. Charitable workers in every field are freely offered the use of our library and rooms for investigating their special predilections.

THE PUBLIC ANNUAL MEETINGS

Of the Society were held upon the 23d ultimo, agreeably to the announcement in our last, and a full account of the proceedings will be published on January 1st, in an extra edition of the REGISTER. The papers and addresses were of permanent value, and are worth careful study and preservation.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES.

Attention is called to the letter from Mr. Hughes under the head of "Correspondence," which corrects the impression gathered by some of his listeners from his remarks concerning salaries.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—Before purchasing, our readers are requested to read case No. 59 on the last page.

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

At large was held on the 23d ult., at 7 p.m., in the Library Room, S.E. Corner of 15th and Chestnut streets, according to previous announcement. Mr. Joshua L. Baily was called to the chair, and Mr. Albert B. Williams was chosen secretary.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved. The annual report of the Directors was submitted to the members of the society, and, on motion, was referred to the incoming Board for publication.

The election of seven Directors was ordered, as required by Act IV. of the By-laws, to take the place of those whose term of office had just expired. A communication from the Assembly was read nominating to the meeting the following, viz.: Messrs. A. A. Deakyne, M.D., Thomas C. Hand, jun., Josiah R. Sypher, Thomas S. Harrison, Theodore Starr, Albert B. Williams, Robert N. Willson, and a ballot being taken, these gentlemen were declared to be unanimously elected.

The meeting then adjourned to attend the public meeting in Association Hall, at eight o'clock.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

NOVEMBER MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

Thomas Hughes, M. P. of London, England, was elected a Corresponding Member of the Society, and Rev. Charles G. Ames an Honorary Member.

The Annual Report was presented by the Committee in charge of its preparation, and adopted for presentation to the Society at the Annual Meeting.

The following recommendations of the Committee on Co-operation were adopted:

1. "That the General Secretary be requested to send the cards of the Grandom Institution, giving their divisions of the City into Districts, to the Superintendents of the several Ward Associations, and at the same time the cards with the regulations of the Fuel Savings Society of Philadelphia, reminding them of the fact that there is a formal co-operation existing with these Societies."

2. "That the Secretary shall inform the Boards of Directors of the Ward Associations that the distribution of the fuel orders by the Directors of the City Trusts will begin December 1, and (as heretofore certain of the Directors have intrusted the disposition of the fuel orders to our Superintendents on the personal application of Directors of our Society) their attention is drawn to the fact that the distribution is about to be made."

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's General Conference was held on Monday, November 8; the president, Mrs. Wm. J. Gillingham in the Chair; Mrs. Jos. P. Mumford acting as Secretary pro tem.

The minutes and reports from the various Wards were read and approved.

The Committee to prepare a Circular Letter, to be distributed throughout the Wards, to increase the numbers of Visitors, reported a form of letter which, it was hoped, would be adopted by every Ward.

Discussion followed on the danger incurred by the Visitors in respect to contagious diseases, concerning which Mrs. James C. Biddle, of the 7th Ward, thought that no more risk was run in visiting the poor than in using the street-cars. The Superintendent's making the first visit, in suspected cases, protects the Visitor in a great measure.

Dr. Jefferis, Superintendent of 8th and 9th Wards, on being called on by the President, stated that, in his opinion, the danger of taking contagious diseases is greatly over-estimated, and, in fact, is less than that of exposure to diseases of the skin.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following names for Officers of the Conference for the ensuing year, viz.: Mrs. William J. Gillingham, of the 20th Ward, President; Mrs. M. A. Jones, of the 22d Ward, Secretary, and,

On motion, these ladies were duly elected as such officers.

Mrs. Gillingham, in acknowledgement, thanked the ladies for the honor conferred upon her, and for the continued confidence reposed in her, adding, that she was but a cipher in the Association, but, as a cipher attains value when placed alongside of the digits, so she trusted that she might prove useful when placed among the body of workers composing the Conference.

Mrs. L. J. Roberts, of the 12th Ward, replied, that the thanks of the Conference were due to Mrs. Gillingham for the efficient work fulfilled by her in the position to which she had been called.

The amendment of the By-Laws, recommending a change in the time for the monthly meetings, as proposed at the last Conference, was next considered and adopted.

A communication was read from the General Secretary, requesting that the day be changed from the second Monday of the month to an earlier date, in order that the report of the meeting might be printed in the REGISTER for the same month.

Difficulty being experienced in selecting a suitable day or hour for the Conference, no definite conclusion was reached, and so the regular time remains unchanged for the present.

Mrs. John Lucas explained the certificate sent to the various Wards by the Silk Culture Association, the object of which was the formation of scholarships to enable the Society to send out young women qualified to teach and establish schools for the culture of silk.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet the second Monday in December, at 10 a. m.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

DECEMBER 6, 1880.

The Assembly held its stated meeting at the customary place, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the Chair, and the General Secretary acting as Secretary of the meeting.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting were read and approved.

A communication was received from the Board of Directors, stating the adoption of the following By-law for the Assembly, to wit:

"There shall be a Committee of the Assembly, consisting of fifteen members, to be entitled the Committee on Charitable and Correctional Records and Statistics in the City of Philadelphia."

This being the time for the annual re-constitution of the Assembly according to the By-laws, a Committee of Five was appointed to nominate officers, who subsequently reported,

For President: H. Lenox Hodge, M.D.

For Vice-presidents: Philip C. Garrett; Robert N. Willson; Josiah R. Sypher.

Recording Secretary: Thomas C. Hand, jr.

The report was accepted, and the gentlemen named were elected by acclamation.

Mr. Joseph G. Rosengarten then read the report of the Standing Committee on

PENAL AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS,

of which the following is an abstract:

The question of existing needs of the Penal and Reformatory Institutions in and near Philadelphia is, of itself, broad enough to take all the force that can be expended in that direction. The data of what has been done, here and elsewhere, fill a great volume of 719 pages—"The State of Prisons and of Child-saving Institutions in the Civilized World", by E. C. Wines, published after the death of that veteran in prison science, and constituting a monument to his devotion to the subject. In it will be found succinct accounts of the work done in the way of improving penal and reformatory institutions the world over, and from it may be gathered much useful knowledge on the subject. The principles set forth by Mr. Wines are, briefly, as follows: Prison reform consists of five principal heads. 1st, Safe-keeping, to detain offenders; 2d, Repression, to intimidate them; 3d, Correction, to reform them; 4th, Duration of imprisonment, so that it is, (1,) Repressive, and, (2,) Reformatory; 5th, Limit of Prison Population, which is fixed for this purpose at 500.

The theory of imprisonment has for its aim the prevention of three things: escape, mutual corruption, and relapse into crime, and, based on these conditions, it is the aim and purpose of Prison Reform to protect society from offenders against its laws, to punish such offences, and finally to convert the offender from an enemy of law and order to one of its supporters. Just so far as Prisons and Reformatories do these things, they are successful; but when they fail in any of them they fall short of their task.

Child-Saving Work.

One of the greatest factors in the success of all Prison Reform has been the rapid growth of Reform Schools, and the preventive effects of their work is clearly measurable in the reduced ratios of crime to population where such Schools have been most flourishing. The statements made on this score have been such as to excite question, and yet they seem well authenticated. Take, for instance, that of Gloucester, in England, where, in the course of thirty years, instead of seven prisons, there is one, and its population has been reduced from 870 to 170. The City of New York is the home of forty-four associations which have in view the redemption of vicious and exposed children. Of these the Children's Aid Society is the one best known, by reason of the variety and success of its work. Besides its seven lodging-houses, where thirteen thousand homeless children are annually sheltered, its twenty-one day-industrial schools and thirteen night-schools, it has been busy, since 1853, in finding homes in the West for poor boys saved from vice: beginning with two hundred, in that year, it now sends out from three to four thousand annually, making a total of nearly fifty thousand men, who have thus gained the opportunity of useful lives. All this has been done at a cost of two millions of dollars, and to-day, from legislative and municipal grants, but chiefly from private benefactions, it has an annual income of nearly a quarter of a million. Now, as the result of this work, it points to the fact that the commitments of females for vagrancy fell from 5,880 in 1860 to 548 in 1871; while, if this proportion had followed the increase of population, it would have numbered 6,700 in place of 548. The commitments of young girls for petty thieving shrank from 1,133 in 1860 to 572 in 1871, and of juvenile female delinquents, from 240 in 1860 to 59 in 1870, and of young children from 403 in 1863 to 212 in 1871. The same proportions hold good of males: For vagrancy the decrease was, from 2,829 in 1859 to 934 in 1871, instead of an increase to 3,225; for petty larceny, from 2,626 in 1859, to 1,978 in 1871, instead of an increase to 2,861; of commitments of boys under 16, from 1,965 in 1864 to 1,017 in 1871; of juvenile pickpockets from 466 in 1860 to 313 in 1871.

Great Britain has 200 Reform and Industrial Schools, organized by private charity, and assisted by Government only after individual efforts have secured the success of the undertaking. In twenty years from 1858 to 1878, the number of children committed to prison was reduced from 10,329 to 7,584. In London, alone, in the nine years of work of the London School Board, it has taken out of the streets over 5,000 vagabond children, and sent them to industrial schools or to its own training-ship, or its own infant schools.

It is estimated that, in the United States, there are half a million children receiving no public instruction; a large number of them born in crime and bred to it. To arrest this downward stream there must be Infant Asylums, Kindergartens, Orphanages, Homes for Abandoned Children, Industrial Schools, giving food and instruction; others supplying clothing and lodging, Apprentices' Schools, Societies to help Apprentices, and other such appliances, in use in this and other countries, where it is recognized that it is cheaper to prevent crime than to punish it. During one hundred and twenty years, Pennsylvania has spent half

a million of dollars in preventing crime by reform schools, and each one of its penitentiaries has cost over a million. *More than one-fifth of the prisoners in this country are under twenty, more than two-thirds under thirty, and certainly the statistics of our own State and City bear out the proportions that might be saved by preventive remedies.*

In an appeal to the authorities, issued by the officers of the House of Refuge, it is stated that there were committed to the county jails near Philadelphia, between 16 and 21:

In the years 1878, '79, '80,	661
In Philadelphia,	813
A total of	1,474
Or an average annual commitment of	491
There were committed to the House of Correction,	1,210
An average of	403
A total average for each year of	894
And a total for three years of	2,684
And there are now in the Eastern Penitentiary,	230
Boys under twenty-one,—and there were convicted of crimes and sent to county jails and Reformatories in this State, in the year 1878, offenders under 21,	708
	938

and this number was 24 7-100 per cent. of the whole number of commitments during that year.

The House of Refuge has had an experience of over fifty years. It was established in 1828, and it has sent forth twenty thousands of young persons who have derived more or less benefit from their stay there. It is after their long and intimate knowledge of the difficulties that beset its inmates after they leave its shelter, that its venerable President now urges on the Legislature two things: first, to take the present buildings and use them as a Prison for offenders between sixteen and twenty-one; thus relieving our County Prisons and Jails from the burthen and responsibility of making hopelessly corrupt those of still tender years, who are sent to them; and next that, with the proceeds of sale of its present site and buildings, the House of Refuge may establish itself on a Farm, where it can give its inmates the benefit of open-air work, and life in small family groups.

After much careful consideration of various points, the Committee close their report by suggesting:

That the Board of Directors be requested to recommend to the Governor and Legislature of the Commonwealth and the Mayor and Councils of Philadelphia—

1st. The establishment of an intermediate prison for minors charged with and convicted of crime.

2d. The purchase, by the State, of the House of Refuge for that purpose.

And that the Board approve of—

3d. The proposed plan of the Managers for the removal of the House of Refuge to the country, where the inmates can be placed in groups or families, taught farming and other self-supporting industries, and be sent to a colony in the West, to begin life free from dangerous home influences.

4th. The breaking up of Blockley Almshouse, and the removal of the Children's Asylum and the Asylum for old men and women to the country.

5th. The sale of the land now occupied by the Alms House, reserving only so much as may be needed for a City Hospital, Lying-in Asylum and other such branches as must be near at hand.

6th. The immediate increase of Prison accommodation, so as to relieve the Eastern Penitentiary and the County Prison of the overcrowded population now filling their cells with three or four prisoners each, to the utter destruction of prison-discipline, and the hopeless abandonment of every effort to reform the prisoners.

7th. The early completion of the branch of the County Prison which it is proposed to build on the grounds of the House of Correction.

8th. The early completion of the Penitentiary, now begun at Huntingdon, to receive the excess of the population of the Eastern Penitentiary.

9th. The clothing the State Board of Charities with large executive powers to close unsuitable county jails and prisons, work-houses, almshouses, and other places of the kind, and to centralize the occupants in existing institutions suitable for the purpose and under proper discipline.

10th. The introduction of the Elmira system of reformatory for prisoners under their first sentence, and the distinction in treatment between prisoners of this class and those re-committed.

11th. The establishment of a Commission, to examine the whole subject

of Penal and Reformatory Institutions, with a view to securing the efficient conduct of them with the greatest benefit to the inmates, and the relief of the tax-payers.

12th. The solution of the question of industrial technical training in some of the existing Reformatories, that inmates may no longer be discharged without knowledge of any handicraft by which they can earn a livelihood.

13th. That no children once committed to the care of any City, County, or the State for Reformation be surrendered to parents or relatives, unless all the cost incurred in their maintenance be repaid, so as to prevent their being reclaimed for improper callings just at the most critical age for their future welfare.

Just as the Charity Organization Society has reduced the charges upon both public and private charity, by demonstrating the mischief of indiscriminate alms-giving, so it can, in time, have an influence for good upon the Penal and Reformatory Institutions of the City. We have, as yet, too little absolute information to enable us to speak with authority of the work these Institutions are doing, of the improvements needed in their systems of admission and discharge, and of their training and its results both as to prevention and reform. Such a task is too large for any individual laborer, but it is one that falls in with the task undertaken by this Society, and to it we believe the public, both official and individual, will, in time, look for just the sort of knowledge that is needed to make the best provision both individual and collective for all classes coming within the purview of Penal and Reformatory Institutions.

Hon. William S. Peirce, Chairman of the Committee, said that a vast amount of good thought on such subjects, was practically lost, because measures were not taken to see that useful suggestions were put into form to be acted upon by the proper authorities. To avoid such a result in the present instance, he moved the reference to the Board of Directors for appropriate action, of the following resolution:

Resolved, That copies of the Report of the Committee on Penal and Reformatory Institutions be sent to His Honor the Mayor, the Select and Common Councils of Philadelphia, His Excellency the Governor, and the Legislature of Pennsylvania, with a request that it be referred to an appropriate Committee for consideration and action.

Resolved, That the Board request the Governor to recommend to the Legislature the appointment of a State Commission to investigate the working of our Penal and Reformatory Institutions and to recommend reforms needed to make them more effective.

Two Kinds of Training Schools.

Mr. J. L. Baily said, that the City of Philadelphia is not unmindful of her children. She expends a million dollars, annually, upon her Public Schools, and at least another million upon her many Orphan Asylums, and Homes. The provision seems ample to reach all classes who do not persistently hold themselves aloof from it, and, were these instrumentalities for training them in good principles and in useful learning permitted to do their proper work without the counteracting force of other influences, what a great future of usefulness and honorable citizenship might we not count upon for the rising generation! But over against these noble and useful instrumentalities are set other schools—schools of immorality and vice, and claiming the high authority of the City for their nefarious business. Of the latter class of schools we have over five thousand licensed by the City, and another thousand or more unlicensed. The public schools, justly the pride and ornament of the City, are open five hours a day during five days of the week: the other schools of infamy and depravity are open all hours of the day and evening, and on all days of the week, and on Sundays in defiance of law.

A million a year is spent on our Public Schools, (a seemingly generous provision for the education of our precious youths,) but on these other schools of moral leprosy and pestilence, which everywhere abound, are spent from 15 to 20 millions annually.

Recent examinations show that the population inside our prisons, and alms and correctional institutions, increase faster than our population outside of them. If this ratio of increase should continue, it is only a question of time when the majority of our population will be inside such institutions, and a minority outside. What shall we do about it?

The presentments of Grand Juries to our Court of Quarter Sessions assert, with great uniformity, that three-fourths to seven-eighths of all the cases of crime coming before them are traceable to these schools of vice, which, although legalized, sell liquor to minors in defiance of law, and it is by this illegal sale of liquors to minors, and by the low Variety theatres, and other infamous dens—dens whose existence and exact locality are well known to the Authorities of the City, but for whose suppression only faint, spasmodic efforts are made—it is in such schools that thousands of the youth of the city, both boys and girls, are taught,

tempted, and ruined. It is from these schools that there is pouring out an increasing flow of criminals.

Our penal and reformatory institutions should be as perfect as is possible to make them, so that all who are committed to them may become useful citizens. But, if we are hoping permanently to benefit and lift up Society by curing its diseased and depraved members, we must abolish these nurseries of criminals, or else we shall only be lopping off the branches, while the tree maintains its vigorous growth. The physician may prescribe to allay the symptoms of fever, but his work is useless unless he strikes at the cause of the fever. The Board of Health, by proper sanitary measures, can prevent a pestilence, and do a thousand-fold greater good than a whole college of skilful physicians, who can only cure a case here and there, after the scourge has become epidemic. As, therefore, three-fourths, not only of crime, but of poverty also, are caused by the evil in question, let us not present the absurd spectacle of attempting to mitigate them without an effort to purify the foul stream from which they flow.

Public Duty.

Mr. Robert N. Willson, of the 7th Ward, referred to the portion of the Report relating to Children in Reformatories, and said that these bad boys and girls necessarily mix, more or less, with our own children on the streets, and therefore it is the duty of every citizen to interest himself in the management of such institutions. In them are not only those of minor grades of crime, but those only needing opportunity to become great criminals. We must look deeply and earnestly at the matter of removing the causes of crime, and how to save others from being drawn into it.

Mr. R. Blankenburg, (9th Ward,) remembered the feeling of horror he had, when a boy, on hearing of a boy being put into the "House of Refuge." We ought to be very careful about the names we give to these places, and he hoped the Managers would do something to wipe out the stigma attaching to those who by no fault of their own were committed to these institutions. The bad name will stick to a boy for life. Let them be called "Boys' or Girls' Home," "Industrial Schools," or something like that.

Dr. C. E. Cadwalader noted a great omission in our State, in the agencies for the reclamation of incipient female criminals: we have no Prison Society for Women. In New York there is a State institution, with an investment adequate for the purpose. We have several small institutions—the Magdalen Society, the Rosine Association, etc.—but instead of an outlay of \$3,000, or so, there should be means of caring for the little waifs, and rescuing the friendless and tempted; and there might be such by concentrating and co-ordinating existing provisions.

Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland, (27th Ward), Editor of the *National-Baptist*, said it was a notorious fact that the laws forbidding more than one prisoner in one cell were being continually violated in all our prisons. In the Penitentiary, with a capacity of 700, there are 1,000 prisoners. (Judge Peirce: "In the County Prison as high as three and four in a cell.") It was the duty of every such body as this and of every humane citizen to cry out against such an outrage, and try to have it abated. It was inhuman to have the prisoners thus crowded together and corrupting each other. It was the purpose of the law and the interest of society to put a stop to this.

The question being put on Judge Peirce's Resolution, it was unanimously adopted.

Rev. Dr. J. Andrews Harris, of 22d Ward, (Chestnut Hill,) introduced the subject of

"THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF THE TRAMP POPULATION", and gave the experience of the Chestnut Hill Relief Association since its inauguration, early in 1879. Those attempting, about that time, to deal with questions of need and relief in their district found them differing from those of the other parts of the city. There was some manufacturing carried on there, and the class requiring relief was small; so we were left (he said) to deal almost exclusively with tramps. We could not have succeeded without the help of the Police. We had to put up a small frame kitchen, which cost \$75. We hired a woman to cook and serve the meals, two hours each, in the morning and the afternoon; who is paid 50 cents a day, and we pay the janitor something to take care of the building. We serve to our traveling friends hot coffee, a plate of oatmeal mush and biscuit enough; also a little sugar, not the highest priced coffee and sugar, but of a good quality. Our project was looked upon by some of our people as rather inhuman. One gentleman said: "I will never turn away a poor man from my door." But when he found that nearly everybody was going into the arrangement and he would have the privilege of boarding the majority of the tramps, he joined with us, and has been a warm supporter ever since. There was also a feeling among the worthy working class that this was a sort of

soup-house to which the resident poor were to be sent, and they resented it as insulting to an American citizen to offer him relief in that shape. The Police, however, explained it to the grumblers of this class that it was really to make a distinction between the idle, tramping mendicants and the industrious residents who might be in want, and they were satisfied. The tramps were very indignant. One said: "I live 800 miles from here, and I am going home!"

We began in March 1879, in which month we had 229 customers; in March 1880 we had but 95; in April '79 we had 194; in April '80, there were 69; in May '79, 223; May '80, 25; with a similar reduction throughout the year. Tickets, in sheets of ten each were sent to every house; the larger houses having thirty tickets, and none less than ten. A blank was provided for the sender's name. First, they came from all over Chestnut Hill; after awhile only from the station-house. After the tramp-law went into operation, posters, with a copy of it, were put at the approaches of Chestnut Hill. To be sure, no bill stayed up more than a day; but with the facilities for communicating news which exist in the profession, it was soon known throughout the order. Before we opened, one gentleman had been in the habit of feeding, daily, as high as seven at a time on his porch: as a result of the new method, these travelers now seek their comfort elsewhere.

Ours was simply a selfish plan to rid a limited locality of a nuisance. Of course we have felt very sorry for the people who lived outside. In Montgomery county, it is said, there is a regular camp of our departed guests. That is a matter for the people over there to dispose of. We have done our part.

Prof. R. E. Thompson, (30th Ward,) said, that Philadelphia has the reputation among the tramps of being too inquisitive, and many avoided it; but in the counties outside they are crowding them into jails where they contaminate each other. He had not so high an opinion of the tramp-law as some. It was putting a dam across a stream that was flowing across the country. Now we could catch as much of this muddy water as we pleased. In Bucks county jail they had been catching tramps till their rooms are crowded. Better to do like Chestnut Hill, feed them with the food that is convenient for them, and let them go. Pittsburg makes special provision for this in two departments; one a hotel at five cents for meals and lodgings, the other free: the latter sleep on the floor, and are fed on soup made of the remains of the hotel table. Boston had shown the clearest-headed and warmest-hearted way of dealing with the tramps to be found in the country, in its Wayfarer's Lodge.

Mr. H. W. Pitkin told of the workhouses in Connecticut when he was a boy. They were a remedy for the tramping disposition. Inmates of prisons whom he had questioned explained how tramps lured and trained recruits, the easy gains of the fraternity and the freedom from restraint enticing into this life even boys of not more than nine years of age.

Judge Peirce described his difficulty in suppressing a tramp who had been so steady an applicant at his house as to be called the fifteenth member of his family. There is a good deal of what might be called "*maudlin humanity*," in the community. He had seen advertisements of a society somewhere in the south-west part of the city which announced that it was independent of every other, and undertook to help everybody, without consulting with other citizens or societies. He thought they would have enough to do before they got through. This is a business which demands the most careful thought and systematic management if we would not do harm in it.

The meeting thereupon dissolved.

WORK FOR INMATES OF THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Our Committee on Repressing Beggary, etc., being invited by the Committee on Finance of City Councils to meet with them when the subject of street cleaning was considered, the chairman briefly submitted the views of our committee in writing as follows:

PHILA. SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY }
CENTRAL OFFICE, NOV. 26th, 1880. }

John Hunter, Esq., Chairman Councils Committee on Finance:

DEAR SIR:—The Society for Organizing Charity was created in obedience to a demand of the citizens of Philadelphia, who were becoming appalled at the amount of beggary, tramping, and consequent crime, as well as at the waste of money in overlapping charities. In the pursuit of their object, to suppress mendicancy, it is their policy to urge, in all their Ward branches and in the departments of the City government, the idea of encouraging employment as the basis of relief.

This they do, not only for the immediate sake of economy, but to get the objects of it out of habits of indolence into those of industry and self-support.

The aim of the House of Correction, also, as expressed in its title, is to secure the correction, employment, and (consequent) reformation of

its inmates. As to the theory of the institution, therefore, they are in accord with us. But to find means enough of employment, especially for the men, is not so easy.

They have the work on the quarries and on the farm, but these of course are very inadequate to the steady employment of all the inmates, and fail almost entirely in winter. The little work for men about the House, and on the Schuylkill bank does not add much more, and it would be very desirable to substitute for mere ephemeral works, some permanent and sufficient class of labor. If this could, at the same time, be made a substitute for money expended by the city annually, so much the better. In European cities, we are told, the value of the dirt collected renders the street-cleaning a source of revenue over and above its entire cost, and this we conceive would be a most legitimate and economical solution of the problem.

We are aware of the objections that have been raised; we have listened to them and considered them, and we appreciate the value of caution. But while some of these are plausible, none of them seem to us serious, nor at all commensurate with the advantages, in a permanent and uniform system of employment of those living at the city's expense, in substituting an income instead of an outlay for street-cleaning, in having the work done directly under the supervision of city officers instead of contractors, and in begetting habits of industry in the indolent.

The objection of exposure to public derision we regard as of no weight. The work should be done at night, and at any rate, those who reach the House of Correction would find in this only another useful deterrent and correction.

The cost of guarding the workmen from escape would not be great. It is a matter of experience in North Carolina and other places, as well as on the Meadow Banks and South Broad Street.

If the purchase of machinery were an objection, there is much to be said of hand labor, by which corners and gutters could be more searchingly cleaned.

Inquiry has elicited the fact that the inmates would be glad to be so employed, but the managers would have power of selection, if desirable.

The importance of such a change of the present policy seems to us so great that we respectfully urge upon your Committee to withhold approval of the Board of Health's contract for street-cleaning, and substitute therefor an appropriation of say one-fourth the amount, for utensils and expences necessary to enable the House of Correction to do the work.

Yours, Respectfully,

PHILIP C. GARRETT.

Chairman Committee on Mendicancy, Society for Organizing Charity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AMERICAN SCHOOLS FOR NURSES.

CONNECTICUT TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES }
State Hospital, New Haven, Ct., Nov. 1880. }

General Secretary Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity:

DEAR SIR: Under the head of Correspondence in this month's "Register," I find a brief article which attracts attention principally because of what it leaves unsaid of the matter under consideration, namely, the training of nurses for the sick poor and the establishment of "A Nurses' Training School." The article contains an offer from Mrs. Florence (Lees) Craven, superintendent of the Metropolitan Nursing Association, London, to receive and train at \$25 monthly, a suitable person to act as superintendent of a nurse training school in America. Mrs. Craven may in the press of her duties have forgotten her relations with the managers of the State Charities Aid Association, New York, in her visit to this country a few years since, which association was then actively engaged in founding the Bellevue School for Nurses.

That your readers may be instructed as to what is being done in this direction in America, I subjoin in chronological order a list of training schools for nurses already in full operation in this country.

1. The "Nurse Society," Philadelphia, founded under the auspices of the Friends, and supervision of Dr. Joseph Harrington, 1839, amalgamated with the "Lying-in Charity," 1844, has been for a third of a century training nurses in an effective and practical way.
2. The "Training School of the Women's Hospital," Philadelphia, received its first nurse pupils 1863. Course, one year; present number of pupils, 6-8; number of graduates, 50-60.
3. "Training School for Nurses connected with the New England Hospital for Women and Children," Boston, Mass. Opened 1871. Present number of pupils, 15; graduates, not ascertained.
4. "Training School for Nurses," attached to the Bellevue Hospital, New York. Established May 1st, 1873. Course of instruction, two

years; present number of pupils, 63; number of graduates, 104, of whom 70 are in active service as private nurses or in public institutions. Five are superintendments of other training schools; 5 engaged in district nursing under the City Missionary Society, New York, and one with the Society for Ethical Culture, New York. Donations to the school, \$75,000. Manual of nursing published 1877.

5. "Connecticut Training School for Nurses," attached to the State Hospital, New Haven. Established Oct. 1st, 1873; course of instruction, 18 months; present number of pupils, 17; graduates, 40, in full practice. Visits to the poor on application of city missions, 1879-80, 137. Three graduates have been sent to superintend the nursing of other hospitals and one as resident nurse to the Hampton Normal School. Invested funds, \$12,000. Hand book of nursing published, 1878, by Lippincott & Co. 3d edition. In use in six American Training Schools and in the Connecticut Normal School.

6. "New York State School," attached to the Brooklyn Maternity. Established Oct. 1873. Number of pupils, 6-12; course, one year. Diploma granted after three years successful service outside the school. Graduates, 41.

7. "Training School," attached to the Massachusetts General Hospital. Established 1873; course, 2 years. Number of pupils, 42; graduates, 60.

8. "Training School," attached to Charity Hospital, Blackwell's Island. Founded 1875; course, 2 years. Number of pupils, 40; graduates, 75. Manual of nursing published, 1878, by Dr. Edward Frankel.

9. "Training School," connected with the New York Hospital. Course, 2 years. Number of pupils, 28; graduates, 24; founded 1877.

10. "Training School," connected with Hartford Hospital, Conn. Opened 1877; course 2 years. Number of pupils, 15; number of graduates, 7.

11. "Training School," connected with Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass. Opened January, 1878; course 2 years. Number of pupils, 46; graduates, 19.

Besides the schools already described others will soon be opened in the city hospitals of Brooklyn, Chicago, Cleveland and in Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York. A head nurse has also been sent to the hospital in Savannah, Ga. All these places being filled from the Bellevue Training School.

In all these schools a thorough course of instruction is given in the hospital wards in the practical duties of a sick room. Lecturers are provided for, recitations held, text books and models used, and a careful examination is conducted by physicians connected with the hospital before a nurse is granted a diploma. The State Charities Aid Association of New York has published from time to time valuable circulars and books on the general subject of nursing. Among them "A century of nursing with hints towards the formation of a training school,"—Putnam, 1876, and "A hand book for hospital visitors with special chapters on the duties of nurses,"—Putnam, 1877.

In any of the above schools pupils are received free of all charge—board, lodging, and washing are furnished, and a small monthly payment made the nurse. There is, as you see, no lack of instruction for nurses and superintendents of training schools freely offered in our own country, and the London proposition of \$25 monthly becomes superfluous. This thing however is to be said, in spite of the valuable aid given by a number of trained nurses in connection with city missions here and there, there is no where in America a comprehensive and systematic plan for covering a whole city with a district nursing association. I wish it was in my power to speak from observation of the value of such an organization as conducted by Mrs. Craven, but on a late visit to London my application to her to be allowed to accompany one of her nurses as she went on her daily rounds in her nursing district, was refused. There is however a much older nursing organization, and a most valuable one, founded by Mrs. Ranyard, covering a large part of one of the poorest quarters of London and employing from 60 to 70 trained nurses, with one of whom I was very cordially permitted to spend a long morning going from house to house with her through her nursing district, and I can most thoroughly endorse the methods of the association responsible for her. It is a question whether it is any wiser to furnish indiscriminate free nursing, than it is to provide gratuitous medical care to all applicants for it, but at any rate in connection with provident dispensaries there might be provided skilled nursing. And I would urge upon your Organization the wisdom of selecting carefully a suitable person, giving her all the advantages of the best schools in America, and when fitted for the emergencies of medical and surgical nursing, that you should send her for a few months to study in Europe the different methods of the organizations for district nursing, with a view to the establishment of such a work in this country. So far-sighted and benevolent a move, would be worthy of your organization and of your city, always the first in any work of systematic beneficence.

G. W. B.

LETTER FROM THOMAS HUGHES, ESQ., M. P.

LONDON, 80 PARK ST., W., Nov. 19th, 1880.

Mr. Charles D. Kellogg, General Secretary:

DEAR SIR:—I have just returned home and lose no time in answering your letter, which I regret that my son did not give me while I was on your side. I certainly did not mean to say, and can scarcely think I did say, that our Charity Organization Society employs no paid officers, and I much regret that such an inference has been drawn from my words.

What I did mean to say was that the great bulk of our work is done by volunteers who not only sit on the District Committees but themselves do the greater part of the correspondence and even of the enquiries where these do not require an expert. All the wisest heads amongst our religious and social reformers have come to acknowledge the truth of the principles of the Charity Organization Society, and most of them belong to it, or avail themselves of its machinery.

I was greatly pleased at Philadelphia, and also at Boston and New York, to find how your workers have arrived at the same conclusions as we, for I am more and more certain that only on our lines can the question of pauperism be dealt with successfully.

Pray thank your Council for their kind compliment and say how gladly I accept honorary membership of their society.

Very truly yours,

(Signed)

THOS. HUGHES.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

BOSTON ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.

This kindred society held its Second Annual Meeting upon the 11th ult. in Tremont Temple, which was filled by its members and friends. So many good things were said upon the occasion that we are embarrassed by an effort to condense them, and would refer those who desire to peruse them to the Boston "Daily Advertiser" of Nov. 12, which devotes a large space to their report.

Gov. Long presided, and among other things said: If I wanted to sum up the significance of the work of the Associated Charities in one word, it would be to say that it is the application of the highest business principles to the administration of our charities; in other words, to transfer charity from an unregulated impulse to a useful science. Nothing is nobler in Boston than its charities, public and private; their name is legion; their bounty is unmeasured; their hands reach out everywhere, and their feet are on every threshold of want and distress. This institution of the Associated Charities is not intended to limit or to assume any of their functions. Its purpose is to weave them all into harmonious action; to organize them; to help them in raising the needy above the need of relief; to prevent beggary and imposition and diminish pauperism; to encourage thrift, self-dependence and industry, and to aid the poor to help themselves rather than to educate them—the worst education possible—into the habit of living on alms. As Americans we all deprecate anything like the formation among us of caste or class; but, as we want no aristocracy, so certainly we want no caste or class among us, who, by our neglect or error or mistaken charity, are permitted to lose their self-respect, to live as dependents and to cultivate the indolence and unthrift out of which grow most surely and rankest the social elements of imposture and vice.

The President of the Society, Robt. Treat Paine, Jr., reported that their central registration office was in perfect working order as a clearing-house of relief. 20,000 cards are on file, each containing details concerning families in their care. Forty-four societies, of which 17 are churches, and 345 private persons register all their relief at this office. 4,277 cases were acted upon in concert with the Overseers of the Poor, and 3,449 in co-operation with other agencies. The Associated Charities give *no relief* whatever, but secure the full supply and the best application of all needed relief from existing charities; supplying themselves that friendly care and oversight which relief societies cannot furnish, and aiming at prevention and *cure* of pauperism instead of its temporary amelioration.

The aim of the Associated Charities is, whenever any family has fallen so low as to need relief, to send at least one friend to them—a patient, true, sympathizing, firm friend—to do for them all that a friend can do to discover and remove the causes of their dependence and to help them up into independent self-support and self-respect. Each one of the cases reported is a human family, with human lives and cares and woes; some with old age in all its desolate and forgotten gloom; some with sickness, in all its varied forms of torture, sapping the blood, the hope, the means, the energies, the life of the sufferer, and perhaps all other

members of his home; most of them with children growing up to fill full to surfeit our so-called reformatories, our asylums and jails; children lost to every sense of childhood's purity and hope and joy; children swarming in cellars and attics and alleys, mingled with filth, bodies poisoned with disease, souls poisoned with sin, ignorant of any useful art or human hope; children exposed, not by Spartan cruelty to early and swift and simple death, but by more refined Christian cruelty to more protracted decay and far more varied death; or, worse yet, to long lives of degradation, till the story grows so stale that we no longer listen. How much of all the vast mass of suffering, of ignorance or degradation in Boston can be *prevented* is the question of absorbing interest.

Mrs. Caswell, of the North End Training School, followed with a most interesting description (which we hope to place in our columns in full at a later date) of that famous hive of industrial rooms, sewing-schools, laundry school, cooking-school, boys' work shop, day-nursery and kindergarten, to illustrate the work of the society in raising the poor out of destitution and degradation by developing their own resources and stimulating their own ambitions. The results of a single year of this Training School are hardly less than marvellous, and we commend to our friends who may visit the City of Notions to give this one their personal study.

Rev. William Byrne, Vicar General of the Roman Catholic Church in that diocese, prefaced his remarks by saying that from the beginning of this organization he had continued to observe its workings and progress with interest, regarding it as an experiment that deserves to succeed. Recently he had been a careful student of its literature, with a view of gaining a clearer idea of its aims and methods. Its object, as he understood it, is to make the help now given to the poor more useful to them and to society, and to do away with certain abuses that in practice are found to cling to alms-giving and other charitable works. Its spirit, if not rising to the height of the sublimest Christian charity, is at least that of judicious philanthropy. Beneficent benevolence is its motto. Its methods embrace organized and well-directed efforts, thorough investigation, the utilizing of mutual information so as to prevent fraud, and the giving of friendly aid to the poor by kindly advice and active effort in procuring work for the unemployed, and all this by way of supplementing public, associated and private alms-giving. It is essentially an auxiliary association.

The object as thus understood he entirely approved. We are far from having reached perfection in the practical work of charity, and there are many abuses that can only be eliminated by combined and harmonious action on the part of all engaged in the work, by taking counsel together, and by a proper interchange of the knowledge procured by investigation.

Hon. George S. Hale expressed his great interest in the work of the Associated Charities. The principle of that work was to assist a person only in such a way as also to promote the improvement of the person assisted. Somebody comes to you for help. It is easy to give him a dole. You are relieved, and your mind is freed of an uneasy sense that you ought to do something; but you really have done nothing. The man goes away; he does not expend the money you give him properly, or very improperly—I care not which. In every case you have injured him.

Rev. Phillips Brooks spoke words that apply to Philadelphia as well as Boston, when he said if there were any people whose work, not simply for the essential and intrinsic value there is in it, but for the new fields of usefulness and of growth in the relationships of man to man which it had opened, should be remembered gratefully, it was those men and women who devoutly and devotedly had given their time, their care, their thought, themselves, to the poor of the city in this associated work.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Also held its Second Annual Meeting on the 9th ult. This society commenced with an unusual advantage, inasmuch as the chief benevolent society of the city, now 44 years old, realized the fact that the problem of helping the poor of a large city is more complex and intricate than when that city was a small village where all knew each other, and all were neighbors; where want or misery were soon revealed, and where there were few strangers and no paupers. Recognizing this fact the Benevolent Society itself gave birth to the Charity Organization Society, turning over its records to the latter and relieving all the cases which the latter recommends, in the manner recommended; while the latter acts purely as an investigating and co-operative agency, and promotes discerning charity and those industrial and provident schemes which only can elevate the poor. "The essence of true charity is helping those who can work to work." The Charity Organization Society maintains also a Friendly Inn and Wood Yard to furnish work to all, whether tramp or

citizen. No tramp now need beg from door to door, and no resident who can use a saw or axe need want for food or apply for charity. All will be paid for work in money at a rate to keep them from suffering until they can find a more remunerative employment. Deserted wives and widows are also similarly to be cared for. The results thus far are more favorable than its most sanguine friends ever expected, and offer the first reasonable hope that the growth of pauperism may be repressed.

NOTES.

ORGANIZED CHARITY AND OUTDOOR RELIEF.

Sir Charles Trevelyan appears to be conducting a vigorous campaign in the North of England against the present administration of Poor Law Relief.

Speaking of out-relief, Sir Charles is reported to have said at the Ninth Annual Poor Law Conference for the Northern District, that it was an abuse altogether, and should be entirely got rid of. But their hopes of getting rid of it were exactly in proportion to the completeness of the in-door system. What they looked to in England was a system firmly based upon the administrative action of the Boards of Guardians, operating through the work-house, the entire out-door system being worked by wise, organized, regulated charity. They had made great progress in London in laying the foundation. *In London they had almost forgotten there ever was such a class as able-bodied paupers.* Most of the Metropolitan Unions had entered into an alliance with the Poplar work-house, which had been fitted up specially for the management of the able-bodied. *It could not be filled.* The Poplar Guardians complained that they had not work enough to do. It was expected that other Unions would contribute, but able-bodied paupers did not like Poplar Work-house, and the consequence was the London Unions had virtually got rid of the able-bodied pauper.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

Referring to our annual meeting and report, the *Evening Bulletin* after a few kindly criticisms, says of us: "Compared with its successes and its prospects, the errors and ignorances and failures of the 'Organized Charities' are very insignificant. The two years of work have accomplished wonders. What is represented by statistics of money received and visits paid, and families raised from dependence to self-support, great as it has been, is not the greatest work that has been done. The infusing of a new spirit into the old charitable organizations, by which their work is now better done than ever before and the education of large and influential classes of the community in the real science of charity are the two greatest results that have been accomplished. The old pet vice of indiscriminate almsgiving has at last been made disreputable and unfashionable, and the idea of systematic helping of the worthy poor, as a practical and profitable thing, has been rooted firmly in thousands of minds that never entertained the subject at all, before, or that had only very dim and cloudy impressions about it. It is this solid work of education in one of the most serious and difficult of all the problems of human society that the 'Organized Charities' system has won its chief successes and its highest claim to the confidence and co-operation of all good people."

The *Ledger* also says: "The Ward charity offices, as we have said, are not poetical places at all, but every citizen should know, by one visit at least, where the office is for his or her Ward, who the Superintendent is, and get into communication with said office. It may be a formal thing to set oneself down as a subscriber, it is always possible to slip into an envelope or drop into the donation box what you save (because of ward charities' existence) by refusing to give money to beggars on the street. If all the stray nickels or pennies that your judgment tells you do more harm than good given to a whining child on the street—if the sum total of these at any day's or week's end as kept account of or estimated, could be but dropped in at the ward offices, your conscience would be easier, and they perhaps might tell you the sum total would be enough to carry them easily through the year."

A NOTABLE PAUPER.

A notable pauper died a few weeks ago in Charlton work-house, England, at the age of sixty-four. His name was Charles Cartwright. He was a man of education, and had once possessed wealth. He had run through two fortunes, one of \$200,000, and one of \$400,000, spending the money chiefly in ostentatious living, and when utterly destitute had gone

to the work-house, where he lived quietly and contentedly for many years, earning a few luxuries for himself by writing poems for the country papers and sermons for neighboring clergymen. Occasionally his friends would take him away, and grant him an allowance; but their efforts were always useless, as he instantly resumed his old habits, frequented the dearest restaurants, smoked the most expensive cigars, and drove about in cabs. At last he died in the work-house, having never, the clerk thought, been unhappy.

GENERAL HINTS.

TO EVERY STRANGER asking relief on the streets or at your door, give one of the Society's tickets, and send applicant to the nearest Ward Office. Giving to strangers without rigid investigation only encourages imposture and crime. Persons presenting one of these tickets at the Ward Office will be promptly and kindly aided, in urgent cases pending investigation; and afterwards, if found worthy, the most appropriate available relief will be procured for their permanent benefit. When requested to do so, the Ward Superintendent will report the result of the investigation. Tickets may be had at your own Ward Office, where all citizens are invited to call and inspect our methods.

Applicants at unseasonable hours, who state that they are homeless and hungry, are mostly impostors, who choose that time hoping to receive money. For all such the station house is the proper place.

If a sober and apparently respectable man asks at unreasonable hours for means to procure lodgings and meals, give no money but send him to the House of Industry, 716 Catharine Street, with a request for one night's lodging and a meal at the discretion of the matron, but do not repeat it, except through the Ward Association, if there be one, and if they advise it after investigation. Destitute women can be temporarily cared for at the Home for the Homeless, at 708 Lombard Street.

Girls and women calling at houses with baskets to beg for food should be refused, unless they can bring a recommendation from their Ward Superintendent. A majority of them are runners for the hash shops of Alaska and St. Mary's Streets, and purchase means of self-indulgence with the gifts of the benevolent.

Those seeking employment should be referred to your Ward Office.

If you see a homeless innocent young girl, or one seeking reformation, send her to the nearest Reformatory or Boarding and Lodging House named in our Manual.

For destitute children who are orphans or half-orphans, there are abundant refuges to be found by the aid of our Manual; or, cases may be referred to the Ward Association, whose Directors will give every assistance for permanently disposing of them.

Children without parents and old enough to be of service or useful in a private home, should be referred to the Home Missionary Society whose excellent agent, Mr. Toland, has procured good homes for many hundreds of children.

If cases of sickness are brought to your notice consult this Society's Manual as to the nearest proper Medical Charity, to whom refer them for advice and medicines. There are abundant resources of this kind on every side, and no one need suffer an hour for their lack, and no one need give any applicant money for this purpose.

In case of a drunken parent treating children with cruelty, communicate at once with the Society to Protect Children from Cruelty, 1406 Chestnut Street.

CASES.

Case No. 55.—An industrious woman had saved up \$500. She married, and the husband proved a worthless fellow, who went through her money and then left her destitute with a child. The Association took the place of husband and father, and, after caring for them some time, succeeded in settling mother and child in a permanent home in the country.

Case No. 56.—A family, respectable and independent hitherto, had exhausted their means during the sickness of the man, a good mechanic. Learning this, the Superintendent was authorized to furnish full supplies appropriate to the need, in the shape of a loan. Hope proved an excellent medicine; the man speedily recovered and went to work again, glad to repay the loan which had been the timely means of saving his family from a brood of horrors.

Case No. 57.—A young woman, with a baby nine months old, wants a place at service. The father has gone, with the innumerable caravan of similar scamps, to parts unknown. The woman could do housework; had never done any thing else; but nobody would have a woman with an "incumbrance." Begging is before her, and the babe is a good plea; but she will earn her bread or die, she says. At the Ward Office she finds human sympathy. A place is procured for the care of the child, and a situation for the mother; but not, of course, without exertion covering many days. What's the use of having a paid Superintendent?

Case No. 58.—Another typical case: a woman with a small child. Husband hasn't gone away. She wishes he had, for he is only a burden with his drunken habits. Patient efforts are made to keep the home together, until his incorrigibility proves it easier to send the woman to her friends in the country, where he cannot reach and abuse the wife and child, and leave him to his own devices. It was he that separated the family; and he can re-unite them by recovering his manhood. This relief cost nothing for alms but very much in time, labor, and expense; and it saves the wife untold misery, and the community from a pauperized family.

Case No. 59.—A poor woman Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, No. 9 Hatter's Court (North side of Vine Street above 23d) has just been left a widow with 4 children, the youngest 2 months old. She has 30 to 40 Singing Birds for sale, raised by her late husband. Those of our readers who are purposing to buy birds, or are hesitating what to select for holiday presents, will greatly assist a worthy woman to maintain her family by purchasing these birds.

Case No. 60.—The 30th Ward Association was recently asked for assistance by a young girl whose aged mother was dependent upon her for support. While her application was pending, the Superintendent's suspicion was excited by some inconsistency in her statements, and he subjected her case to a thorough investigation. He found that they were in receipt of relief [1] from a benevolent lady of Brooklyn, formerly a resident of Philadelphia; [2] from a Christian congregation, to which they misrepresented their religious status; [3] from a benevolent gentleman of this city,—the three amounting to over thirty dollars a month. Other resources were discovered showing that the family had a reliable income of \$49.50 a month. Each of the three supposed that they alone were giving relief, and that the family were in urgent need. The lady in Brooklyn supposed that the mother was blind and too ill to leave her home, which is not the case. All the persons concerned have expressed their obligations to our Society and its methods.

Case No. 61.—An honest, industrious, sober man of 45, of refined habits, and his wife, equally worthy, having 3 children dependent on them, have suffered great privations for lack of work. He is an expert Florist, Upholsterer, and Cutter of Children's Garments. He can bring strong endorsements from those who have known him for years. Will some one offer to employ him? Apply at the Central Office.

OFFICES OF THE WARD ASSOCIATIONS.

WARD.	LOCATION.	HOURS.	SUPERINTENDENT.
1.	A		
2.	A		
3.	716 Catharine st.	9 to 12 and 2 to 4.	Alpheus K. Long.
4.	622 Alaska st.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	W. H. Hefferan.
5.	338 Griscom st.	9 to 12.	Miss C. Hancock.
6.	300 Branch st.	8 to 10.	Lewis G. Mytinger.
7.	1420 Lombard st.	9 to 10, 11 to 1, 4 to 6.	Dr. E. P. Jeffers.
8.	1634 Sansom st.	11 to 1 and 4 to 5.	Samuel T. Altemus
9.	1500 Vine st.	9 to 11 and 2 to 4.	R. O. Jeffers.
10.	817 North 4th st.	7 to 9, 12 to 2, 4 to 7.	W. H. Parmenter.
11.	730 Green st.	9 to 11 and 3 to 5.	Dr. James W. Walk.
12.	2025 Fairmount ave.	9 to 12.	Charles M. G. Felten.
13.	1035 North 3d st.		
14.	B		
15.	1319 Otis st.	10 to 11 and 4½ to 6.	Dr. A. H. Hulshizer.
16.	2148 North 2d st.	8 to 10 and 4 to 6.	Dr. P. M. Schiedt.
17.	1249 N. 10th st.		W. W. Miller.
18.	B		
19.	No. 4 Harvey st.	2 to 6.	Robert Coulter.
20.	Paul & Oxford sts.	2 to 4 Tu. and Sat.	Mrs. J. R. Savage.
21.	B		
22.	B		
23.	C		
24.	257 South 37th st.	8½ to 11 and 5 to 6.	Rev. F. C. Pearson.
25.	2141 North 13th st.	2 to 5.	Rev. C. H. Kimball, Act.
26.	1910 Master st.	12 to 1 and 5 to 6.	Dr. E. R. Stone.
27.	2035 Christian st.	8 to 11 and 6 to 7.	W. D. Thomas.
28.	F'k'd av. & Sergeant		F. P. Beal.*

N. B. The relief work of this Society is committed exclusively to the Ward Associations. Where no such Associations exist we in the following suggestions:

A. We would advise that applicants be referred to the Union Benevolent Association 7th and Sansom Sts.

B. Applicants from these Wards might be sent to the Home Missionary Society, 633 Arch Street.

C. The Ladies' Independent Relief Association, of the 26th Ward, Mrs. James Evans, 1160 S. Broad St., Pres't, care for the poor of this Ward.

* Secretary and acting as Superintendent *ad interim*.

We want a CORRESPONDENT and a SOLICITOR in every city where there are friends of Organized or Associated Charity.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

	By Charles L. Brace.	By mail
DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK.		
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. By Charles G. Ames. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....	3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. By S. H. Gurteen. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25	.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 500 pp.....	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.60	.66

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc,

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 3. }
WHOLE NO. 15. }

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 1, 1881.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1802 Chestnut Street. Terms Fifty cents a year, including postage, and a reduction for large orders.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

Of the Society occurred Nov. 23d, 1880, and consisted of three sessions. A Conference was held at three o'clock P. M. in the Library Room of Association Building, Corner of 15th and Chestnut Streets, at which Mr. Samuel Huston presided, and the following papers upon CO-OPERATIVE CHARITY were given, viz. :—

On its Economy, by Rev. P. S. Henson, D.D.	1.
On its Value to the Poor, by Miss L. H. Kay.	2.
On its Value to Charitable Societies, by Rev. George Jacobs.	3.
On its Value to Religious Bodies, by Rev. Chas. G. Ames.	4.

The Annual Meeting for business was held in the same place at seven o'clock P. M., the proceedings of which were fully reported in our last number.

At eight o'clock P. M. the General Public Meeting took place in Association Hall, at which the Hon. William Butler, Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, presided, and made an opening address. (See page 6.)

Letters were read from—

Miss Octavia Hill, of London	6.
Robert Treat Paine, Jr., Esq., of Boston	6.

And Addresses were made upon the—

Uncharitableness of Alms-giving, by Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.	6.
Care of the Improvident Poor, by Judge Wm. N. Ashman.	7.
Possibilities of Organized Charity, by Robt. N. Willson, Esq.	*
Wisdom in Administering Charity, by Rev. B. L. Agnew, D.D.	9.

(*The publication of this address is necessarily deferred until our next.)

AFTERNOON CONFERENCE.

CO-OPERATIVE CHARITY—ITS ECONOMY.

BY REV. P. S. HENSON, D.D.

I am to speak to you specially with reference to the economic bearing of this Systematized Charity.

It is wonderful what waste there is in war. It is ascertained with tolerable accuracy that it takes four million bullets to kill a man; that was great comfort to me when I was drafted.

There is immense waste every where: I don't refer especially to the waste of powder and ball, but to waste in general; and waste in general is wicked and sinful. The first thing charged against the prodigal son was wastefulness. All waste is the result of a want of systematic arrangement—want of concentration. The steam that escapes with impalpable force in the air, if properly directed and controlled, will drive the train across the continent. Powder, if placed on a flat surface and touched with fire, gives only a puff of smoke; but if rammed into a gun it will drive a ball like a thunder-bolt.

This organization is adapted to economise our resources, and so save a waste of money and lessen pauperism. Pauperism is an *enemy*; and to meet an enemy you must have strategy, tact, policy, councils of war, and an understanding. Pauperism must be met, like any other enemy, by systematic effort. Ignorance is an enemy, and you do not deal with it as an individual, but you organize a systematic body, as your primary schools, your grammar schools, and your high schools, to deal with it. How miserably the work of education would be accomplished among the lower class without a system!

And so take the matter of water-supply—one of the commonest necessities of life—and what a predicament we should be in without a systematic distribution of water by pipes to every house. Whatever may

be said of our present system, any system is better than none: it is better than going to the Schuylkill with your buckets for water, and especially in such weather as this.

Fire is an enemy, and you have to organize a system to meet it. What would a great city like Philadelphia be without a system and left to mere chance, or in the state in which it was before Consolidation? It was said that something better was needed; and so a fire department was organized, and, instead of the whole town being threatened by the destructive consequences and frequency of fires, fires are now very infrequent, and they are extinguished with such rapidity and with such quiet expedition, that scarcely anybody knows there was a fire.

And so we learn wisdom as the years go by; and we learn that system must be applied to pauperism in order that it be properly overcome and rooted out. I am charged to commend this system to you, and I do it with sincerity. First of all, the adoption of such a system is needed to save money to benevolent people; and we are bound to save money whenever we can. Niggardliness and waste of money are both sinful in the sight of God.

This system saves the duplication of gifts. A case of distress comes to my knowledge, and to yours also. You come with your benefaction, and I bring mine, and yours is hid away before I know anything about it; and so the charity is duplicated. It is a saving of money, since it keeps off the undeserving. A great apostle said, many years ago, by inspiration, "If any would not work, neither should he eat."

Pauperism is a sore of the most malignant stamp, and, instead of fostering it, it must be cut out. It is a sin to encourage a professional mendicant. Paupers are dangerous, and their increase threatens to take the life of the nation. These very people that have been fostered by mistaken charity—that have no mind to work, the class that live upon the susceptibility of soft-hearted benevolence—are dangerous and must be met by a systematic organization. This system saves money by reason of the fact that it tends to put men on their feet instead of destroying their manhood. There are people who do not want to work, and others who are willing to work, and others who can not take care of themselves; they don't lack money but brains: they want to be counselled. In this way you develop manhood, and, little by little, it grows. It develops according as you teach them to take care of themselves. Thus you save money, because you go to the foundations of pauperism. It is not only necessary to relieve pauperism in the stem, but to root up its sources.

This Association saves time. I am a very busy man, and I have no time to hear the endless tales of people who come to me in distress. Perhaps people of this sort go to ministers in preference to all others, because they have large pocket-books and little brains. My doors are besieged every day by men and women, who pour out tales of distress. Before one is despatched, another is on hand, and, at the end of the narrations, I am no wiser than at the beginning, for I can not tell whether there is a word of truth in what they say. They tell their tales with such skill and plausibility as to deceive the *elect*. I have no time to ferret them out. They all live away in the other end of the town. And I have been often deceived by them, for I discovered that they did not live in the places they gave: I found only a vacant lot, in which there was no house at all. I have no time to go on such a fool's errand; and so this Organized System of Charity is a great saving of time. I don't believe that we can ever dispense with this Organization. I don't believe that you or I, or any others, can afford to lose our time in search of such cases.

There are other cases which we can not afford to delegate to any organization under heaven. We must go ourselves and sit down by the bedside of the old people and the little children that are languishing: there will be nothing dearer and more acceptable to God. We can not afford to delegate this duty. We must do it ourselves. This fact is not

in opposition to what I have said in regard to Organized Charity. When I lived in the country I used to go hunting, and took a dog with me. The dog had keener scent and quicker sight than I; and so, when the dog pushed into the wood, I'd hear a bark, and there, on the top of the tree, would be my game, and I'd cock my rifle and bring it down. What a time I'd have if I went hunting by myself, or if I undertook, in a blind sort of way, to go through the woods alone! It is necessary for you to have your agent to find where the game is and then report it to me, so that my credulity may not be imposed upon. The agent acquires, in this way, a very keen perception, and an eye like an eagle, and can judge what to do. The agent or organization will then come to me, and report such a case of distress in such a back street, and say, we recommend it to you and your church. I go, and take the case into my own hands, and that saves me a great amount of trouble.

This is a great saving of my moral nature, and there is a lot of economy in that. I am often troubled in my soul by such cases. If I give, it is just a question whether I have rightly bestowed the Lord's money, and whether I have not done wickedly. If I do not give, then when I rest on my bed at night there will come before me a picture of old people sick and in distress, and little children suffering because they went hungry to bed. I can not afford to have my conscience strained in that way. And so it is necessary to have an Organized Charity, of whose services I can avail myself, and shield myself from conscious wrong and see in what way my duty lies. I rejoice in what is being done in this Organization, and look with confidence and hope for the time when it shall be perfected.

THE VALUE OF CO-OPERATIVE CHARITY TO THE POOR.

BY MISS LILY H. KAY.

The distinctive principles of Organization in Charity are still so new that I suppose we all look back to the time when charitable giving seemed such an unequivocal blessing towards the poor that there was no limitation to be thought of but its amount.

A lady in my presence once, being appealed to by a poor woman, opened her purse, and finding nothing less than a \$10 note, promptly bestowed it, remarking afterwards: "How glad I am there was no small change to tempt me to be niggardly;" and I felt myself thrill with admiration of her high-mindedness. To discriminate between the good and bad was even made matter of reproach.

With what an air of conscious merit the worthy mistress of a household would proclaim that "none should go unfed from her door;" and there was something almost akin to a spirit of emulation in reckoning up the number of meals furnished daily to the race of tramps.

One of our Guardians of the Poor told me that after a preliminary study of the Poor Laws, on taking his oath of office, his only concern was how to give freely enough. He did not dream of the possibility of injuring the pauper in any other way than by stinting him of his due supply of alms.

In the early days of our society, ladies would urge against abiding by our discriminations, that they would not have a chance of doing their fair share of charity. It certainly seemed an obvious and simple settlement of the difficulty that those who had a superabundance of the good things of this world, should transfer some to those who lacked. But no matter how willing and liberal the rich, their gifts would not remain the possession of the poor. The Guardian quoted above said to me of his later experience: "The more I gave the poorer they grew."

I recall the first case I undertook to treat personally. How my heart went out to the woman whose tale of distress I at once recognized as genuine. I pronounced that "I could read it in her eye." Then, too, she shed tears. In those days I had no acquaintance with the lachrymose element in a glass of beer. Tears, I thought, could only proceed from the extremity of anguish. With what ardor of benevolence I promised myself the satisfaction of repairing her broken fortunes. It looked such a little thing to adjust what was amiss in one life. To recount in detail all I tried to do, and did not succeed in doing, would be only to go over a path we all have trodden. After the immediate relay of coal, groceries and soup tickets, I procured a permit to a hospital for her consumptive husband, which he declined to use. I made clothing for the children, which I never knew them to wear, always appearing in the primordial tatters. I sought family washes for her, which she always had an excellent excuse for throwing up the second week. I rose at daybreak (she was not an early riser herself) to answer advertisements for her older boys, who never suited after they got the places, etc. When, at the advent of summer, we dissolved partnership, though I came out of it with a considerable accession of wisdom, yet, for all the benefit that accrued to her and her family, I might as well have shut the door in her face the first day.

A clergyman of our town tells that he had been so perplexed in his experience with the poor of his own parish, that he rejoiced when a movement for Organized Charity was started, because a portion, at least, of the aggregate amount to be expended would be diverted from the poor in paying the wages of a superintendent.

Our inadequate conception of the purpose and uses of charity was reflected in the distorted ideas prevailing among the poor themselves, as revealed in our course of investigation.

"Are you not able to work?" the Visitor would ask, on being brought face to face with a strong middle-aged woman. "Yes, mam, I sew jackets for the mills." (Quite a lucrative branch of the trade.) "Your son, too, is working?" "Yes, mam, but Lizzie, down stairs, got quarter of a ton of coal last week, and it would be very convenient for me, too." (Lizzie is a feeble-minded woman of sixty or upwards, competent only to execute a very inferior kind of work, correspondingly poorly paid.) "You told me you had no coal," I said, sitting down to warm myself at a blazing fire. "Well, mam," returned my applicant naively, "I did not know how soon you would come, so I had to buy quarter of a ton."

When it came to handling the lists of the Guardians of the Poor, the argument was constantly put forward that they had had "help" for twelve, fourteen, and even eighteen years, through two or three Guardians' terms of office. We have reached the point now to take this as conclusive proof that "help" is not going to help them.

Here the Visitor cannot do better than spare half an hour in a little plain talk with them. That it is preferable to live by the labor of their own hands—that it is sweet to be beholden to no one, falls blankly upon them at first. It is higher than their benumbed moral sense can reach. But when you point out that charity is only meant to succor the absolutely destitute—those who have nothing to eat or keep them warm, and when you ask if they put themselves on that level, you will see a little awakening of pride. "Oh, no, no; they have not come to that yet." And then, before I go away, "will I assure them that S. B., across the way, is to have no charity coal this winter, because in that case it is very possible they can make out without it, too." Here is the germ of a susceptibility to public opinion; a welcome sign.

The relieving of actual want is the simplest part of the work. It should be adequate and unhesitatingly given; but mutual relations are to be established on a just basis. We must not let our estimate of the miseries of hunger and cold betray us into a display of sentiment which shall have the effect upon the applicant (who is probably very much more unused to notice, than he is to physical privation) of making him appear a hero in his own eyes. It is important to require a particular recital of how he was brought to such straits, the Visitor assisting his memory by going back with him over the ground, step by step, trying to link together cause and effect. She sympathizes, but never allows him to assume that he is in any measure the victim of ill-luck.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the kind of food to be given, and the method of giving it. Plain bread-stuffs, while they really supply most nourishment, do not possess any alluring qualities in themselves. People who were clamorous for the weekly order of the Guardian of the Poor, when it meant butter, eggs, cheese, beef-steak, etc., at the grocers, disdain the same amount in cornmeal, oatmeal, rice, delivered at the office.

The Visitor's personal ministration hardly admits of being reduced to a code. She bears her testimony to the beauty of a life of independence; but I think it is indirectly that her influence tells. The poor do not become self-supporting at our bidding. The doctrine is most eloquently preached without words. Above all, the Visitor is to eschew habits of hectoring. She may accord many little kindnesses, but the less material her benefits, the better. Even in providing work, it is judicious to indicate rather how they may obtain it by their own exertions, than to let them feel the responsibility is, in ever so slight measure, shifted. To be uniformly patient, cheerful, interested, is the Visitor's role. Yet while inspiring a sense of friendliness, it must be made manifest that there is no preying upon her sympathies to the extorting of unwonted favors; or there is an end to the hope of moral support. How this mode operates is best seen by results. Our Superintendent (Twenty-second Ward) tells me he can reckon ninety families of distinctly manifested pauper characteristics, who within the past two years have gone to work in good earnest. And this does not include cases helped one year only, or furnished with occasional help, two years.

I have spoken of an indirect influence, nor can one in any wise predict when and where the seeds sown will take root. One man (a pitiable mortal himself) reports that his boy Dick, aged fifteen, will not submit to living on charity any longer. So out of his earnings this summer he has accumulated enough at the Saving Fund to buy coal and flour for the winter, and Laura (thirteen) will pay the rent. One man and woman (both intemperate, whose house I pronounced quite the untiest

I had ever set foot in) took so kindly to our Coal Savings scheme, that on the 1st of December two tons of coal were stored for them. Calling, subsequently, I found John, though out of work, at home and sober, seated nursing the baby before a small fire in the front room hitherto disused; the children's Sunday-school cards and some dried grasses were nailed on the walls, and two whole chairs imported from the kitchen.

"You see, it's my own coal now," he said, with a glance of intelligence, when I congratulated him upon looking so comfortable. The wedge was entered. Another woman, also addicted to drink, after saving for coal, was inspired to lay by for a carpet. This necessitated setting up a parlor, as she could not cook and let the children spill upon the new carpet; also the beginning of good things.

A more marked case was of a woman both drunken and dishonest. She had a family of very young children, whom for five years we had been looking after at intervals—clothing, sending to school, and at times feeding, with little hopes of working upon the mother. In the sixth year, on calling to take one of the younger children, she announced to me that she was now going to support her family herself, as she expressed it, "there was no sense in the way she had been going on;" and accordingly she did. Once in a very cold spell of weather, she asked me for a quarter of a ton of coal; but before I had written the order, she checked me saying she would go to a coal dealer she once worked for and ask him to let her clean the office for the price of the coal. Poor Annie is not a model housekeeper yet, but I feel something akin to deference, in view of the strength of purpose and effort of self-denial that have gone to the putting under of her baser nature.

The advantages of Organized Charity to the Poor appear to me to be comprised in the two following circumstances. First: Our system by its adoption of and adherence to stated methods, succeeds in convincing the poor man that there are no prizes to be drawn. A mere bodily sustenance, accompanied by rigid supervision has no attractions to give him a distaste for getting his living.

Second: Association with a superior class on a totally different plan from the old relation of pensioner and patron, operates to elevate his standard of living. Intercourse is not confined to one Visitor alone. All active Visitors who have been any time in the work, form a large general acquaintance among the poor. Then, too, we see members of the family of a Visitor, though not themselves in active service, adopt their sister's or mother's cases into their own circle of interest. The poor man, through the medium of the Ward Office, is virtually introduced into good society.

There is one side of Organized Charity I have not touched upon. It is as concerning its action upon a class who never could have come to the surface under old methods. In the course of my work I can number scores of shrinking, sensitive women—helpless because tied to the calamitous consequences of a husband's ill-doing—many of whom I regard as warm personal friends; and if I have a leisure afternoon, I do not know how to spend it more pleasantly than by a social call at their homes. I have tried to picture one of these women standing on a stranger's step to ask for alms, and I know that to such natures it would have been a moral impossibility. If but for the opportunity of sharing and lightening their burdens, no Visitor would have foregone the experiences of Organized Charity. These, if their testimony were available, would prove the best pleaders of its cause.

THE VALUE OF CO-OPERATIVE CHARITY TO CHARITABLE SOCIETIES.

BY REV. GEORGE JACOBS.

Sympathy for the distresses of our fellows, and the impulse which Charity gives thereto, seems to "spring eternal in the human breast;" for nothing calls forth our warmest feelings of pity and benevolence sooner than the sight, or the knowledge, of helplessness and want.

From an early period of the world's history, the fiat went forth, that "the poor should never cease from out of the land," and God's Law plainly provided for the needy; not alone for the sake of the relief afforded to them, but to teach us that we were not created to become selfish beings, nor think of ourselves alone, and to prompt us to manifest all the gentler emotions of the heart towards our kind:—fit evidence of the Divine spark that has been breathed within us, and proclaiming the common brotherhood of man; that "we have all one Father—that one God has created us all."

Feelings of benevolence and charity actuate nearly all the human race; and it is a question of moment to those who desire to benefit their kind, *not* whether charity should be dispensed, but whether the *head* or the *mind* should not become an important factor in making use of the means which the *hand* puts forth at the dictates of the *heart*. In other words, whether simply giving alms, and thus relieving the pressing wants of the poor may be termed, in its broadest sense, true charity?

Now, charity, in its olden significance, was called, by the Hebrews, ZEDAKAH, meaning "rectitude", "right", "justice". The wisdom of this is apparent, and the question naturally suggests itself, does alms-giving, does eleemosynary aid, cover this ground? Is indiscriminate charity an act of "rectitude" of which we can be honestly proud? Do we perform what is "right", when we give merely because we are called upon? Do we really conform to the principles of "justice" when we dispense pecuniary or other aid indiscriminately to those who apply for the same? Decidedly not; and the wisest philanthropists have, for years endeavored to weed out the undeserving, (always the most importunate) and to concentrate their benevolence on the truly deserving; since they are the real sufferers, and are always loth to make known their pitiful condition.

To guard against imposition on the individual, and to do the greatest good where it was most needed, Societies and Associations came into existence, and labored with great energy to place their officers or managers in *personal* contact with cases of need. But, even with the best of intentions, they failed to accomplish the objects they had in view; and each society, like the individual, was expending means and energy to purposes but little beneficial.

Where a number of alms-giving societies exist without proper communication with each other, and without concert of action, imposition by the undeserving becomes more frequently the rule than the exception. Professional beggars go from one society to another for aid, and a condition of pauperism is thus fostered in old and young: in the former, by practice; in the latter, both by example and practice. The effect is, that not alone are manhood and womanhood crushed out of these indiscriminate receivers of alms, but they become, in the majority of cases, (as sad experience shows us,) degraded specimens of humanity, till, with loss of self-respect, there follow, too frequently, those evils which are a plague-spot on a community.

To overcome these troubles and their attendant ills, concentrated efforts and organized plans are necessary, by means of which the contributions of the benevolent may not be wasted upon the undeserving, establishments where sinecures exist may be abolished, and the doling out of small amounts where they can do but little good, receive a check to the manifest advantage of all concerned.

One central Society, with proper officers and efficient management, will be of more benefit to the community than fifty working independently of each other and dispensing aid indiscriminately.

I do not state this simply as a matter of personal opinion, but as one of actual fact. To prove this, I will give you, briefly, an outline of what the United Hebrew Charities, with which I have been connected since its incipency, has done, and is yet doing, to benefit those who come within the sphere of its operations.

In the early part of the year 1869, there existed in Philadelphia, irrespective of the Hospital and Foster Home, seven Hebrew Charitable Societies for giving aid, of various kinds, to the poor; and it had become apparent to those who took an interest in their well-being that, unless concerted action took place between them, or an amalgamation was effected, they would fail in their best-meant efforts, and succeed (if it may be termed success) but in encouraging and upholding pauperism. A meeting was called for the purpose of trying to effect a consolidation, and it was shown, without the varnish of rhetoric, how frequently one society clashed with the other, from lack of a general system of relief, and how often the self-same impostors importuned the heads of the different societies, and by their persistent appeals succeeded in receiving money from each organization; so that not only was the treasury frequently drained, but an injury was done to the deserving poor, who could not, therefore, be sufficiently relieved, and more especially those who from motives of delicacy would not proclaim their necessities aloud to the world.

To check this to-be-regretted state of things, six of the seven societies resolved, with great unanimity, to consolidate, and since that time the practical workings of the United Societies have been in every way satisfactory. It was an experiment, it is true; but its progress has been so steady and assured, that it will commend itself to the careful consideration of those who would accomplish the most good to the deserving poor of our community. Eleven years of experience are certainly of value, and these results are shown in their reports.

During that time, the large sum of nearly \$140,000 has been dispensed in benevolence, at an expense of only \$15,000; notwithstanding the cost of office-rent, collecting, and the minutiae of expenditure unavoidable where the central office must be kept open continually, so as to relieve the wants of constant applicants, as well as the regular beneficiaries of the organization. This expense, as Mr. Hughes demonstrated in his recent address before your body, does not "increase with population or beneficiaries", for, said he, "when once the machinery is made, the application of it to new territory is a small item of cost."

With the exception of the Assistant Secretary, who has always to be present at the central rooms, *there is no paid officer in the Society of the United Charities*. The president, vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, and board of managers, devote time to the labor of benevolence without compensation; while the city has been divided into twelve districts, each under the special charge of five ladies and gentlemen, who examine and report upon every case within twenty-four hours, unless *immediate* aid is necessary. All of this is attended to by them solely for the sake of humanity and the love of benefiting their fellow-creatures.

The effects of this economic consolidation of means and energy have been most marked. Pauperism has been materially lessened; the begging around from door to door has been considerably checked; while there has been established an office where every case of want has met with a sympathetic ear, and a ready hand, to relieve the distresses which "human flesh is heir to."

Another feature of good that this consolidation has been able to accomplish, to a moderate extent, has been the establishing of a "Loan Department." During the first decade of its existence in its present form, 196 persons have had temporary loans amounting to nearly \$5,000, about 30 per cent. of which has been repaid. While the exhibit of this department may not be regarded as favorable from a financial point of view, yet has there been great good done to those who were the recipients of its benefits. They have been afforded the means of earning a livelihood for themselves and their families, and, instead of being a tax and a drain on the Society, many are self-supporting—nay, more than that, about 50 of those who were thus helped are now contributors to the Society, and doing their share towards aiding others in like manner as they had been previously aided.

It is to this end, and for these purposes, that I would enlist your attention. The City of Brotherly Love is noted for its institutions of benevolence. But I would urge upon your body,—"The Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity",—the necessity of carrying out your mission to the fullest extent, the wisdom of directing every effort, to reduce vagrancy and pauperism in the most effectual manner, and using all the means at your disposition in a beneficent, and yet in an economic and a judicious manner, for the better relief of destitution; for the elevation of the deserving poor, and the providing, in a generous way, for those who, with a little timely and properly administered help, would be able, in a short time, to help themselves.

By such means, not alone will pauperism receive a death-blow, but the vices which gather around such a condition, and from which our prisons and penitentiaries garner such large harvests, will be materially lessened, and you will be benefiting, not alone the *few*, but the *masses*. You will not be rearing a race of beggars who are a pest to the community; you will not be encouraging the bold and brazen-faced in their system of importunity; but you will become, under Divine Providence, the almoners of the bounty of others in its best and widest phase, and letting heaven-born Charity, like its twin sister, Mercy, "bless him that gives and him that takes."

THE VALUE OF CO-OPERATIVE CHARITY TO RELIGIOUS BODIES.

BY REV. CHARLES G. AMES.

It should by this time be well understood that "Organized Charity" does not mean any sort of a machine offered as a substitute for human hearts and hands, but a union of hearts and hands to accomplish in the best way a work which concerns everybody, and which can only be done by general consent and co-operation. Its friends are therefore prompt to seek the approval and help of all classes, and especially of all religious denominations. Public spirited citizens and social economists cannot carry on such a work alone; it requires a union of all the social and moral forces. Not only is it possible for the churches to block the way by their indifference or hostility, but the influence of religious ideas and sympathies is vitally necessary to save the methods of Charity from becoming hard and mechanical. If science must check the excesses of sentiment, sentiment must touch science with humanity. The head cannot yet say to the heart, "I have no need of thee." We must therefore look to the churches for a large part of the motive power or inspiration, which can make the success of Organized Charity possible.

But, in matters of practical wisdom, it seems to be as much in the order of Providence that the world should teach the Church as that the Church should teach the world; and it so happens that there is yet a great deal for us all to learn. Certainly, the teachers of religion, taken collectively, cannot boast of infallibility in the matter of giving. None bleed more freely when the leeches apply; none are more wanting in discernment in the presence of a plausible beggar; none exercise less

caution in commending doubtful cases to the sympathy of others. This is one matter among several, in which "the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light."

I have read that "in the early times of Christianity the care of widows, orphans, the sick and impotent poor, and destitute persons generally, was made a primary duty of the authorities and members of Christian congregations;" that "throughout the primitive Church a considerable part of the offerings and collections made in the congregations was applied to the relief of such persons;" and that in later times, when tithes had taken the place of free-will offerings, a fourth, or even a third of the revenues of the Church was thus devoted.

But did the early Christians construe literally the direction to "give to every one that asketh?" By no means. To guard against abuse—to restrain indiscriminate distribution of charity funds—St. Paul laid down for the easy-going Thessalonians this rule, that "if any would not work, neither should he eat." It appears that the pious bummer was already abroad. Two hundred years later Cyprian, the wise bishop of Carthage, described the cautious method then practiced in the churches. He tells us that aid was granted, "not by chance, but with care, and preceded by an inquiry, in which the most circumstantial information was obtained; the age of the applicant, his profession, the number of his children, his character and the cause of his distress, being entered in a matricula, or special register."

The testimony in favor of judicial charity must have been kept up at intervals by some clear voices, for Cornelius Agrippa writes, "The canon decrees of the Popes also have ordained that almses should be distributed on those poore people only who cannot labor; and do reckon all others which take almses among theeves, robbers and sacrilegers." The money collected for the relief of real suffering was held peculiarly sacred, like the vessels at the altar: and to live by sponging any part of this consecrated fund was deemed a hideous kind of profanation, just as robbing the poor box is still considered.

Thus from the beginning the Christian church has felt "the enthusiasm of humanity," and has taught the blessedness of considering the poor, as Hebrew sages, psalmists and prophets had taught it long before. But from the beginning, also, as St. Paul's injunction shows, there has been a tendency to reckless giving, and the thoughtful verdict of history affirms that the charity of the Church, through its unwise administration, has caused vastly more misery than it has cured, and has helped to depress the tone of morality itself.

During the middle ages the monastic institutions maintained by the daily dole at their gates great multitudes, not only of the crippled and helpless victims of violence and misfortune, but also of the idle and vicious; thus creating and confirming habits of dependence and contented degradation. As the mere act of giving was accounted meritorious, the living and the dying turned over to these wholesale pauper-factories enormous wealth, well-gotten or ill-gotten; the industry of nations was sacrificed, and the energies of the Church were largely diverted from the work of instruction and character-building to the practice of a charity as blind and diseased as any of its subjects.

The breaking up of the monastic institutions left the ever-increasing mass of beggary to be provided for by private alms-giving and public authority. The nations began to experiment in "poor laws"—aptly named; they ingeniously invented new methods of burdening the people and coddling or tormenting the outcasts. In England, for a while, the parish priest was made the sole custodian and dispenser of charity funds, and it was a penal offence for any other person to give a penny, save through his hand. This legislation, which shows that the Church was then still supposed to be divinely charged with the care of the poor, might have worked well if the priests could have been educated in the monthly assemblies of the Philadelphia Charity Organization, or if they had been mindful of St. Paul's caution and Cyprian's method of inquiry. The plan broke down amid increasing disorders, and Parliament at last placed the whole matter in the hands of secular guardians. But the State succeeded no better than the Church. The system of alms-houses and out-door relief has been tried for centuries, with the effect of facilitating the descent into poverty and crime, and of educating millions of the lower-class English to think themselves as much entitled to live in idleness at the public expense as soldiers and sailors are to draw their rations. The evil has been greatly aggravated by the blindness of private generosity; and the total injury inflicted on England is said to be greater than that of any of her foreign wars.

It thus appears that neither the Church nor the State, acting alone, has been able to deal wisely with the mighty mischief. But it may also be shown that in the progress of civilization the whole subject has been widely laid open to intelligence; that the feeling of obligation to provide for the helpless, to protect society from spurious begging and to

remove the causes of human suffering, has become so generally diffused that it may be safely appealed to and relied on. This diffused and wiser charity is in part the outcome of religious influences; in part, it is a result of broader knowledge and more careful study of social situations and forces.

In our own time, it is probably as impossible for the Church to recover the monopoly of charity as for her to recover the monopoly of education. Equally impossible would it be for all our religious bodies to combine and work together on a uniform plan. They must therefore choose one of three courses. They must abandon the work of charity to outsiders by a cowardly breach of trust, false alike to God and man; or they must keep up the separate competitive, over-lapping system which corrupts the poor, injures society, dishonors religion and confirms all the ugly old mischiefs; or they must keep step to the march of events and the music of Providence by co-operating in freedom with the organized charity of the community, giving to it the blessing of a higher spirit, and receiving from it the invigoration of out-door air and exercise, along with a practical schooling in usefulness for both ministry and laity.

Let us face the facts and make the most of them. A fact is a divinely appointed teacher. As Edmund Burke says, "The situation of man is the preceptor of his duty." And this is one fact of the modern situation. A large part of the moral force and wise philanthropy of the time is working independently of ecclesiastical methods and limits. Thus it comes to pass that this work of general charity is being taken up with earnestness and good sense, quite apart from any particular church or religious body, by men and women connected with all, and in happy union with some who are connected with none. Because this beautiful and beneficent movement goes on outside our palings, have we a right to conclude that it is also outside the divine order? If honorable and intelligent people, regardless of sect or party, name or creed, are ready to unite in doing a work which we confess ought to be done, shall we look on with coldness and suspicion, or mar the miracle by playing at cross purposes, merely because devils are being cast out by some who are not of our company?

It is possible that by pursuing a narrow policy, or acting in a narrow spirit, we may leave more souls to drop into heathenism each year in a single great city than are converted by all the missionaries of Christendom. And if we care more for institutions than for men, will not a subtle leaven of heathenism pass into our own faith and worship?

If the movement for associated and judicial charity be indeed inspired by love and guided by wisdom, it offers to all religious bodies an opportunity they cannot afford to miss—an opportunity to remedy the saddest defects of our so-called Christian civilization by helping to close the chasm which separates the prosperous from the miserable classes, and to arrest the growing alienation of the poor from all religion. Let us bear in mind that this is no question of ecclesiastical interests; it is a question of fidelity in our human relations. A true church has no interest but to carry forward the work of redemption, by doing good, through sacrifice, to the bodies and souls of men. The very existence of a class at our own doors in perishing need of friendly help, counsel, encouragement and instruction, opens "a great and effectual door," quite as surely as does the Macedonian cry from distant pagans. Every church must be judged by what it can give out, by the healing virtue of its touch, by its capacity for service, and especially by what it can do for "the least of these."

It is therefore no small recommendation for this work of Co-operative Charity that it would put religious bodies in harmony with their own best principles and traditions, revive their primitive enthusiasm, and restore the waning faith of outsiders in their divine mission. Beneficence makes no skeptics. Nothing commends the Roman Catholic Church to the common mind so much as her charities,—the zeal of her Sisters of Mercy, the service of the Societies of St. Vincent de Paul, and the standing testimony given by every house of worship that the rich and poor may meet together as children of a common Father. I think neither the eloquence nor the learning of Dr. Chalmers sheds such lustre on Scotch Presbyterianism as does his wise and successful crusade against poverty and vice in Glasgow and Edinburg. What brighter page has the Protestant Episcopal Church of America to show in her history than the record of Dr. Muhlenberg's work for the poor? And are not the Jews more justly proud of the benevolence of Judah Touro than of the financial genius of the Rothschilds? Has not the name of William Ellery Channing sounded through all lands, not so much because he challenged the creeds of Christendom as because he was an apostle of humanity and pleaded for universal brotherhood in the name of God? Is not the ritualist party in the English Church winning the confidence of the lower classes less by its candles and processions than by its abounding good works and alms-deeds? Even Felix Adler wins a following in New York as the teacher of naturalism, not only

by the force of learning and genius, but because he is training his "Society for Ethical Culture" in the practical humanities. Buddhism made its great conquest of Eastern Asia and brought one-third of the human race under its sway, because it broke the chains of caste and taught men the law of love. These facts and a thousand others prove that our power to touch mankind in the spirit must depend largely on our power to heal the hurts of the flesh and to lift the life that now is to higher levels.

According to the historian Alison, Protestantism has proved incompetent to prevent the growth of a degraded class in cities. Perhaps the same stricture justly lies against every form of religious teaching. In the very shadow of synagogue and temple, cathedral and church, chapel and meeting-house, there have grown and multiplied all shapes and shades of suffering and crime. But is not the humane concern which thoughtful thousands in all denominations share in common with their enlightened fellow-citizens a sign that a better time is at hand? Is it not now made possible for religious bodies to wipe away the reproach of caring more for theories and forms, or for the tithe of mint, anise and cummin, than for justice, mercy and the love of God, by identifying themselves with a movement whose prime object is to rescue the perishing and save the lost?

And a method which seeks to remove the causes of pauperism by calling into action the inward energies of the poor must have a peculiar claim upon the favor of the churches, because it lies along the line of their own best work, the improvement of character.

Through indiscriminate giving a church defeats itself. It demoralizes the poor by weakening the motive to self-improvement, and by confirming in them the mental tendencies which obstruct spiritual development. Every man, woman or child who is contented in idleness and willing to feed on the earnings of others is so far withdrawn from the reach of moral help. And this result follows not less surely when we make our annual donations depend on attendance at the church or the Sunday school. One woman complains thus: "You give us second-hand shoes; the ladies of another church give new ones, and I shall send my children there." And this woman speaks for many who are corrupted by those who sincerely wish to save them.

The churches must choose as the community must choose—between paying the expenses of keeping the poor in poverty by a lazy system of so-called relief, and paying the expenses of lifting them out of poverty by a careful ministry to their real needs; between a method which speeds them towards permanent beggary, the almshouse or the prison, and a method which slowly leads towards self-respect, self-support and a full membership in the human family. I reach these conclusions:—

1. The churches of Philadelphia should earnestly discourage all almsgiving, except in harmony with the principles of this Charity Organization, since giving without adequate inquiry has been proved to be selfish in the giver, hurtful to the receiver, wasteful of sacred resources, and therefore wicked.

2. While every religious society may properly provide by a judicial plan for its own poor, no church or combination of churches should set up a separate method of dealing with outside pauperism; but the members of religious bodies should co-operate with each other and with all like-minded citizens in maintaining the administration of general charity on some carefully considered plan which may apply uniformly to the whole city.

3. The teachers of religion should qualify themselves by observation and study for giving instruction in the principles of intelligent charity, the causes and prevention of pauperism and the importance of more close and friendly relations between the prosperous and the depressed. These and similar subjects should be included in the curriculum of every theological seminary.

4. From the body of the laity, thus instructed, the church would continually send forth trained and faithful men and women to share in the work of Organized Charity in the same unofficial and unecclesiastical way as the same churches now supply worthy husbands and wives, public spirited citizens, and useful members of all trades and professions.

5. Whether the whole city shall be blessed through coming years by a sensible and efficient system of charity must depend not alone on the faith and faithfulness of the small minority who now believe in it enough to try it, but also on the intelligent co-operation of nearly five hundred religious societies and their ministers. It is in their power to build it up or to break it down. And their religious work must prosper or suffer accordingly.

6. The objective point toward which we must push is to make services of good will to the needy a part of the common morality, and to make indiscriminating charity seem as discreditable as the careless handling of fire-arms, and as absurd as the use of a surgeon's instruments by an idiot.

EVENING CONFERENCE.

ADDRESS BY HON. WILLIAM BUTLER.

Upon taking the chair at the evening Public Meeting, Judge Butler said :—

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I feel complimented, honored indeed—not so much in being called to preside here, as in being esteemed worthy of an invitation to join you in this great work. For a greater or nobler work than that of providing for the poor, never, I think, engaged the attention of men. And I use the term, providing for the poor, not in the restricted sense of furnishing food, and clothing, and shelter, simply, but in the broader signification, which includes, with such material support, the kindly ministrations of tender sympathy. Alms-giving inspired simply by a cold sense of social obligation,—towards the poor whose physical necessities may thus be relieved for the time, or towards society, whose interests may thus be promoted, to a limited extent,—never has and never will accomplish much. To help the poor effectually,—to perform the whole office of charity in this respect,—much more is required than a supply for material necessities. The individual must be lifted up, the despondency and soreness of heart removed, self-respect inspired, and hope encouraged. To do this requires that alms-giving shall be the outgrowth of religious affection; that the alms-giver shall fully recognize the common brotherhood of men, and appreciate the great and beautiful thought involved in this expression; shall see in the worthy poor near kindred, who differ from himself only in their misfortunes, whose harder lot in life, whose heavier burden, he should assist to bear. Such alms-giving helps the poor, helps society, and, especially, helps the helper.

Riding across the Chestnut street bridge, into this city, some years ago, on a clear, cold night, when the street and window-lights were shining brightly in the frosty air, the scene was so inspiring, that I called the attention of a friend who sat by my side,—an elderly and very benevolent man,—to it. He answered that he had just been thinking of the thousands of destitute people in this great city to-night,—many homeless, many despairing,—without knowledge of a single heart to which they could turn for consolation or sympathy. I have rarely entered the city at night since without recalling his remark. It is to assist in helping these destitute, these homeless, these despairing people (not grudgingly, but heartily and lovingly), that we are here to-night. That this can only be wisely and effectually done by *carefully organized action*, all past experience, relating to the subject, has demonstrated. To consider and promote such organization, and prepare for carrying it into practical effect, is the special object of this meeting.

The following letters were then read by Philip C. Garrett, Esq. :—

FROM MISS OCTAVIA HILL, OF LONDON,

(In a letter to one of the Society's Visitors).

Tell your fellow-workers from me, will you? how much interested I am to hear of what they have done and are doing. I am satisfied that visiting, such as I gather you have established, which brings those of different classes into real friendly relations, must in time help to raise those who are fallen low in any sense of the word: from wealth, little can be hoped; from intercourse everything. That is to say, everything we have to give seems to communicate itself to those we love and know: if we are true we make them truthful, if faithful, full of faith; if earnest and energetic, earnest and energetic: while they give to us whatever they excel in; patience, energy, hope, industry. It is only a gradual process, but it is a sure one. Human intercourse, in God's own mercy, seems appointed to be the influence strongest of all for moulding character. What we strongly desire to see those we work among become, what we ourselves struggle to be, that or something nearer to it, in time, they will be; and as poverty, drunkenness, dirt, and many other outward evils spring from character, so we can only *really* teach them by moulding character: first our own, and then insensibly and gradually those of our friends, poor or rich, and submitting in turn to learn from them in all in which they are greater or better than we. Thus and thus only can we help one another, and your systems and our systems are valuable just in so far as they bring loving and helpful people among those who suffer or sin, and enable the different powers developed in different classes of people to tell on one another. From the beginning of the world it has been so, and we shall find no other way to save and to help. What we *are* in our homes, our shops, our markets, our schools, our whole lives, that we shall be among our poor. You who seem to have succeeded in developing regular visiting to a great extent, may be happy in remembering that it means the human intercourse, help, and friendliness which will lighten, cheer and purify many a home. I am sure you will scorn all systems if

ever they become mere routine, and will feel that each visitor is bound to throw into the regular work the utmost amount of fire and heart; that your wisdom must be penetrated with tenderness, and your mercy far-seeing in its wisdom.

FROM ROBT. TREAT PAINE, JR., ESQ.

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES,
BOSTON, Nov. 20th, 1880. }

Chas. D. Kellogg, Esq., Gen'l Sec'y

Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity—

My Dear Sir: I am sorry I can not accept your invitation to be with you at your annual meeting, and renew the inspiration of which your great meeting of last year was so full.

I trust that with you, as also here in Boston, the good work goes strongly forward. Boston was fortunate in having its relieving agencies so well managed that we have been able to keep our whole energies in the Associated Charities fixed firmly on the infinitely important work of raising, rousing, cheering, stimulating, helping needy families to become independent, and especially making sure that children shall not grow up to be paupers.

Relief is dangerous both to giver and receiver. In our father's days the needy were so well known that relief could be given with knowledge and judgment in small cities and towns; and Anglo-Saxon character rarely sunk so low that alms could confirm a family as paupers. But now, the numbers of our great cities are so large, and the tide of immigration, passing through, leaves such a multitude of ignorant and shiftless men, women and children, that the simple old ways of our fathers' times will not meet the new needs.

Our great American cities have awakened not a moment too early to the startling fact, that unless they rouse their whole energies, they will soon have a *caste of confirmed paupers*, firmly rooted. After that the *disease can not be cured*. A single family of poor we can aid; a single family of paupers we can manage: but when pauperism has poisoned a whole neighborhood and pauper parents beget a whole progeny of pauper children, what remedy remains?

Economy, as well as religion, can not tolerate such a curse. The problem is no longer one of relief,—*of course distress must be relieved, promptly, fittingly and tenderly*,—but after that has been done the great work remains. The brains, the wealth and the virtue of the community have got to see to it that the needy and the young are not left to the gloomy fate of ignorance, and shiftlessness and pauperism.

Every honorable man and woman must feel that it is their part to do a little of this work. They must each make sure that they are doing their whole duty to the *one needy family* with which they happen to be in any relation. So only can the relations of life be filled fuller with virtuous influences.

We escape in Boston all question about the relative expense for machinery and for relief. Education only needs machinery: we have nothing else in our Associated Charities of Boston. No money, that I have ever given in charity, has seemed to me so productive of permanent good to those who need it most, as that paid to our agents, who devote their whole time to this work of helping one family after another to regain independence, or at any rate to rise up into a better life.

With my best wishes, I am very sincerely yours,

ROBERT TREAT PAINE, JR.

THE UNCHARITABLENESS OF ALMS-GIVING.

BY REV. DANIEL R. GOODWIN, D. D.

The theme assigned to me this evening is, "The Uncharitableness of Alms-giving" an expression which might seem paradoxical; but I am not responsible for the title, and must say in what sense I understand it. I do not say that all alms-giving is uncharitable. God forbid! But *mere* indiscriminate and promiscuous alms-giving is uncharitable. But you will ask if our Lord does not say, "Give to every one that asketh of thee?" Yes, and He said, "If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee." I never knew anybody that thought it was a man's duty, in case his eye caused him to sin, to pluck it out, and I suppose, instead of being any man's duty, no man has a right to do it: it would be a wrong act. What, then, does it mean? It was understood easily enough by those to whom it was addressed, and by common-sense readers to-day. It is not to be taken with absolute literalness; nor does the former injunction mean that you are, literally, to give every man that "asketh of thee." It means this, that whenever we are asked we should be ready and glad to give to every one that needs; and if we withhold giving it shall be shown to be, not from parsimoniousness, but for other and better reasons. If we give, we are bound to avoid doing evil, and to do the greatest possible good.

Now, as far as alms-giving is charity, there is enough of it to relieve all the poverty, destitution and distress that exists, if it were rightly directed and secure from perversion and abuse. The perversion and abuse do not dry up the fountain itself, but they obstruct the flowing streams, or divert them into wasteful and harmful channels. That there should be poverty and misery and suffering in the world is an evil, but it is an evil out of which God brings higher good, and He does it through the agency of human charity. It is a part of the very constitution of things that good is brought out of evil. It is truer of charity than it is of mercy, that it is twice-blessed; it blesses him that gives and him that takes, and it is more blessed to give than to receive. This charity is developing some of the highest and holiest sentiments of the human heart; benevolence and gratitude. But if this charity is to have its full scope and effect; if it is to be directed into the right channels; if it is to be preserved from perversion and abuse, there must be organization; there must be system; there must be hearty action accompanied with thorough and detailed investigation, and a personal and proper knowledge of each individual case, in order to know how relief is to be best bestowed.

It is one of the common mistakes of men who are strong upon alms-giving to think that all those who beg in the streets, or from door to door, are genuine cases of want, and that cases of deception and imposition are very rare: whereas, on the contrary, the cases of real necessity and honest want are the exceptions to the rule, as any man will soon learn who makes due investigation. Another prevalent mistake is, that we ought to relieve only the meritorious cases; whereas it is our duty to elevate and purify the low and vicious, and to care for them as well as the meritorious. Proper efforts are to be made to improve their character, and in the meantime their present wants are not to be neglected. But it is an apostolic maxim that, "if a man will not work, neither shall he eat;" and there are some cases where the best remedy is, to be sent to the almshouse.

It is also to be remembered that poverty, destitution and wretchedness come, in most cases, from some mental or moral defect, from indolence or ignorance, from intemperance or thriftless habits; and so the character is to be redeemed as well as the present wants supplied, if there is to be suitable treatment for the case. No doubt there are cases in which destitution and poverty come from necessity or Divine Providence, through hereditary sickness or unavoidable misfortune, but these cases are but few out of the whole mass.

Another thing to be kept in mind is, that in cases of want and distress the relief should be sought and given in their own immediate neighborhood, so that the poor should not be encouraged by any means to roam over the city. They should remain near where they are known, and those who would relieve their wants should not seek them in distant parts of the city, but care for the poor in their immediate neighborhood.

The mere giving to anybody, promiscuously and indiscriminately, is very cheap, and, like most cheap things, is very worthless, and generally is mischievous. True charity goes much further. It takes a personal interest in its objects: it seeks to elevate and encourage them with personal kindness and counsel and sympathy; it seeks to teach them how to relieve their own wants; it aids them to find employment when it is needed, or makes a timely loan, that they may feel that they are helping themselves, and so restores them to a sense of their manhood and a desire and purpose to make themselves independent. And the only real help that can be given to men is, to help them to help themselves. If you would help a person to walk you do not accomplish it by taking him in your arms and carrying him. That would hinder his walking and enfeeble him; and so it is with alms-giving. Mere giving to all who ask keeps them helpless and encourages mendicancy, improvidence and imposition. You can not distinguish the true from the false unless you examine critically into every case.

We must also avoid indiscriminate giving, as it robs the honest poor of that which was intended to relieve their wants. It is an embezzlement of trust-funds; and its only result is, that it degrades the recipient more and more the longer the aid is continued. Now, if there were no remedy for these evils, or alms-giving were the only way to deal with the poor, it might be seriously concluded that we had better not give at all. But there is poverty and suffering among us, and we are bound to relieve it; and the question is forced upon us, how shall we do it? And I insist that it can only be done safely, efficiently and successfully by organization, system, concert. Organization is absolutely needed in a community like ours. It may not have been needed in Judea, and it may not be needed now in small villages, where everybody knows the circumstances of everybody around him; but in a great city like this, organization is absolutely necessary, otherwise there is superabundance of relief in one section and an entire lack in another. Absence of organization creates a trade upon charity, and there are many in the community

who carry on this trade by getting relief from various parties who have no concert or intercourse with each other.

Now, how shall we secure this organization? The churches might organize together and it may be suggested that Christian churches should do it. The Hebrews take care of their own poor, and the Friends take care of theirs, and so do the individual churches generally, (unless they are very poor,) take care of their communicant-members and regular attendants. But there is a multitude outside of all these, where the greatest number of poor are to be found. I suppose the Roman Catholic church may not as effectually relieve all its members as some other Christian bodies, simply because it may not be so wealthy in proportion to its numbers, and its membership is made up in a different way, and there is no distinction between communicants and those who attend worship. The churches could thus organize if there were only one denomination; but every religious body is divided into parishes without geographical boundaries, each interlacing with each all over the city, and you can not restrict them. At all events, whether the Churches or the general benevolent and relief societies of the city might thus organize, they have not done it, and we have. Now if any one can frame a better organization for charity than this, let him do it. If you want a voice in this Organization the opportunity is offered. We do not stand in the way of anybody's overflowing charity. Every one, whether individual, or church, or association, is just as free to do all that he would do were this Society not in existence. This Society does not come in to hinder, but to help, and it offers help to all. It does not, and it never did propose to substitute itself for any other of the charitable agencies in this city of any kind; but it seeks to supply what they lack, to furnish a common central agency which they can all use, and through which they can all work more efficiently and economically than without it.

Let me illustrate: A person comes to me for aid. I say, "Where do you live?" He answers, in such a part of my Ward. Availing myself of this Organization, I give him a ticket to go to the Superintendent in that Ward. Perhaps he does not go, and may not live there: but if he goes the Superintendent will ask the Visitor in whose district the applicant lives to examine this case, and he will also look after it promptly himself, and ascertain all the circumstances; and, if I desire to care for the case when investigated, he would ascertain the kind and extent of help needed, and would inform me. Now I know what I am about, for the case has been carefully considered. And these Visitors continue their charitable offices by personal contact, and encouragement and advice, until the applicant has recovered his or her independent position; or the Ward Association will see what Church he is connected with, and will inform its officers and secure their care for it; or will ascertain what relatives are able, and should afford relief; or, failing in these, there remain various charitable associations from which the Association endeavors to secure the needed aid, and if this, too, is ineffectual, then the Association itself makes the necessary provision. Or, if a person calls upon me and says he came from a distant Ward, I send him, as before, to the Superintendent of my Ward, who sends him with his ticket to the Superintendent of his own Ward, who pursues the same course: and so, again, this Society is instrumental in securing the needed help. Now if some church or association, or individual, is found by us to take charge of every case, without any charge at all to this Society or its branches, is there any harm in that? Nothing appears on our Treasurer's report, as spent in relief, and then comes this charge, that here are \$25,000 expended, and with very little given away, and so much spent in machinery! Suppose it were so, and this Society merely utilized and directed proper relief into the proper channels in every case, so that all the wants of the poor of the city were thus supplied, its office would be performed in the most perfect manner, although it should not expend one cent in direct relief to the poor. Do you say it costs a great deal? There must be expenses: you can not have any organization requiring faithful, expert, intelligent service, without expenses. You must have a Central Office and some one paid to manage it and to do the necessary labor. You must have Superintendents and Ward Officers within reasonable distance of the poor, in all parts of the city, and therefore, you must have machinery. It is machinery that is to direct all the charitable religious and educational agencies of the city, and it is indispensable for their proper administration: but, where wisely and efficiently used, it is labor-saving machinery.

CARE OF THE IMPROVIDENT POOR.

BY HON. WILLIAM N. ASHMAN, ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT.

Towards the vicious and improvident poor, the Society for Organizing Charity acts in the capacity of a detective, rather than in that of a relieving agent. Its province of relief begins and ends with the care of de-

serving poverty, and finds within its own limits scope for the exercise of the largest resources of philanthropy. The deserving poor are the victims of misfortune, not crime, and they possess, as a class, a recuperative force which needs only the stimulus of present relief and the possibility of future endeavor, to place its possessors in the ranks of useful members of the community. It is manifest that the treatment which would work a blessing to this class, would result only in disaster if applied to the vicious or the improvident. For these, measures of training and discipline are demanded, which are beyond the reach of any mechanism of private beneficence, and can be operated only by Society acting through the arm of Law.

When we seek to ascertain the conditions within which the agency of law shall be brought to bear upon these classes, we are astonished to find how loose are the notions which prevail respecting the relations of government to the social economy. It is fashionable, in some quarters, to sneer at any theory which would carry the action of the ruling power in a State, beyond what may be termed its purely political functions, as the paternal theory of government. The men who affect this cavil, can see no distinction between the patronage by the State of a church establishment, and its patronage of a system of popular education. Their ideal of government seems to be that of a machine, running outside of the grooves of conscience, and absolutely unfettered by human sympathies, whose sole function consists in keeping society in a state of cohesion. The moral growth of the individual and even his material welfare, say these objectors, must be left to other agencies; it is the business of government to repress, but not to educate.

It is perhaps a difficult problem to fix the limits within which government may safely interfere with the individual, and the question before us illustrates the difficulty. It is impossible, for instance, to eliminate the idea of injustice from the conflict which is constantly being waged between wealth and want. In that battle the advantage seems to be always on one side, and the aphorism of scripture is literally and hourly fulfilled: "To him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have." Yet in the effort to end it, it has been demonstrated by more than one terrible revolution that any system of law which aims at a forced equality, by abridging the rights of the rich in order to remedy the wrongs of the poor, must end only in disaster. Still, I deny that in a struggle like this Government can afford to stand aloof. There are certain rights to which every man is entitled as a birth-right, and there is a plane of equality, on which, as to some conditions, all men should start evenly on the race of life. To every man, God's great gifts of air and light should be open in unstinted profusion; to every man, the food and warmth and clothing which are needed to support existence, should be accessible; but does he get them? Every lane and alley in our cities, every tenement where poverty sits in gaunt and ragged wretchedness: every child, half-clad and hungry, who walks our streets, is a mute and terrible witness against, not so much the Christianity as the government of our time. Government should see to it that the meanest abode is as open to the influences of air and sunshine as the costliest; that the narrowest street shall be as safe from pestilence as the widest; and that the toiler, who is willing to toil, shall be at least certain of food.

While the care of the poor is thus primarily the duty of government, there are many reasons why a part of that duty should be assumed by private beneficence. Rightly to apportion this responsibility, we may divide the poor into two classes: those which require a relieving and those which require a *quasi* punitive treatment. The first class will comprise the meritorious poor. The great majority of its members are only temporarily disabled by reason either of sickness or want of employment, or extreme youth; and the badge of their class is that its disability does not arise from any indisposition to labor. Your organization controls all the appliances which are needed for the reinstatement of these sufferers to their normal position in society. The remaining members are those who are permanently disqualified for labor. They are the crippled, the incurably diseased and the insane. Here the agency of your Society is called into play in securing for them admission and permanent treatment in the homes founded by private charity, or in the appropriate State or Municipal institutions.

The second great class of poor are those who require a treatment disciplinary rather than relieving in its character. They comprise the vicious and the improvident. I know that these terms are too general, but the brief limits assigned me forbid their subdivision. This class may be characterized by the presence of a confirmed unwillingness to labor. It is composed—I, of those who have no homes, follow no trade, and are very accurately described as tramps. Of these a high English authority has declared that 94 per cent. are thieves: II, those who have homes, but who prey upon society and subsist by begging or petty dep-

redations: III, those who have homes, but who by reason of vicious indulgences have lost the capacity or inclination for self-supporting labor. Towards this class of paupers, your Society plays a most important part, but manifestly a very different one from that which it assumes in the treatment of the deserving poor. It would, of course, relieve in any instance of actual physical suffering, but in the nature of things, it can not supply a remedy for the evil. That mischief can be extirpated only by a course of heroic treatment. You can detect and bring to light the proper subjects for the operation, but the work of applying it must be left to the State or municipality.

We have then in the case of the vicious and improvident poor, as I have described them, a class of persons who are the distinct foes of modern civilization. They are perhaps its most dangerous foes. Macaulay has been ridiculed for saying of such as they, that "In the heart of great capitals and in the very midst of churches and palaces and museums, there lurk Goths fiercer than those who marched under Attila, and Vandals more bent on destruction than those who followed Genseric." But are we quite sure that the picture was too vivid? Consider that year by year, and never so unbrokenly as in the present year, the pauper populations of Europe are contributing their quotas to our own. Do not misunderstand me. In the incoming tide of immigration I see the elements of great material growth. The energy which abandons the decaying civilization of the Old World for the boundless possibilities of the New, is a priceless factor in the development of our Western Commonwealths. But this tide brings with it thousands of hopeless moral and social wrecks, and these are stranded upon our great cities. Will you tell me that these armies of the very refuse and dregs of whole centuries of misrule and degradation can be absorbed in our body politic without lowering its moral tone, and without any possible danger to our future? Let a single illustration answer: One of the strange facts connected with the late dreadful riots at Pittsburg, we are told, was the appearance upon the scene, as the most turbulent actors, of hundreds of strange faces, utterly unknown to the police, who swarmed almost in a moment from the most unexpected quarters. Like birds of night attracted by the smell of blood, these human vultures found in that tumult food for their worst appetites and a proof of their own strength, which had been hitherto denied to them. Every city contains its contingent of these outlaws, and so long as it holds them unchained, every city rests upon a magazine which may be fired in an hour. Nor is this the worst. These classes propagate their species, and from their ranks will come a generation of hereditary outcasts, more hopelessly abject and imbruted than their fathers.

The remedies which have been devised by our legislators for this evil, would be laughable for their primitiveness, if the subject was not too serious for laughter. When a pauper of the class we have described has brought himself under the notice of the magistrate or other officer, by beating his wife or children, by open and habitual drunkenness, by importunate begging, or by sleeping in public places at night, he is sent to the House of Correction. His stay there can not extend beyond one year, and it may be less than one month, at the discretion of the magistrate. It is generally limited to one month. If he stays for the longer period, some show of labor is exacted from him, and perhaps the rudiments of a trade are taught him, but usually the doors of the House open very readily for his release, and he goes back to his old haunts with an appetite whetted for worse excesses and with an added cunning to elude the law. Under existing legislation our House of Correction acts upon the debilitated vagrant as the sea-side resort upon the tired citizen. In its quiet repose and plain but generous fare, he recuperates the energies which a too zealous pursuit of his daily avocations had enfeebled.

This is a fair summary of all the legislation, State and Municipal, upon this subject. There are, it is true, special acts upon the statute-book, for the suppressing of tramping, the principles of which are comprehended in the treatment just described, and the purpose of which is to get rid of the tramp as soon as possible, provided he will consent to confine his depredations to other communities. Nor can I find that other States have improved greatly on this system. The nearest approach to a well-digested scheme appears in a bill which was submitted, recently, to the Legislature of New York by the "State Charities Aid Association." It provides for the appointment of a Board of Managers in each judicial district, and the opening of a workhouse in each district for the reception of all persons convicted before the proper magistrate of vagrancy. The term of imprisonment is to be not less than 90 days, nor longer than six months, on a first conviction, and it is, not to exceed one year on any subsequent conviction. The prisoners are to be taught habits of self-supporting industry, and an account is to be opened with each, in which he is to be credited with the value of his

labors in money, and charged with the cost of his maintenance. At the close of his term, the balance is to be paid to him.

This is a stride in the right direction, but the most that can be urged in its behalf is that it is a palliative and not a remedy. Society needs to be protected against the vagrant, and the vagrant needs to be protected against himself. The process by which these ends are to be attained is necessarily tedious. Its purpose must be to seclude the offender from the community whom he injures by his worthlessness, and to return him to that community only when he shall have been furnished with the habits and skill which may render him of some value to his fellows. Now just carry the system which it is proposed to inaugurate in New York to a point at which it will really meet the difficulties of the case. We have in our own city, ready to our hand, all the machinery for a complete experiment. Bring before a court of justice the pauper who has no trade and performs no work, and who lives upon the alms which his children beg upon the streets. When every presumption of his innocence is dispelled by competent proof, then sentence him to the House of Correction. Let him go there not for a holiday trip, nor a season of recuperation, but let him go there for a course of training which shall cover some years. You send your sons to college for a term of years; the pauper has a more difficult lesson, and should remain in his college for a longer term. Let him be kept there until he shall have thoroughly mastered a trade; the making of roads, or the making of shoes, or the making of hats. Give him a stimulus in the shape of small wages. Let him know what it means, for five years, to labor and to be clean and temperate and to keep regular hours. Let all hope of a release, before he shall have become self-supporting, be excluded. Let him know when he leaves the institution that his course will be watched, and that a relapse into his old ways will be visited with another and longer imprisonment. Suppose that 1000 of such commitments should be made in Philadelphia in the next twelve months, do you think that vagrancy and begging would be looked upon as profitable professions?

But no treatment of the vicious poor, however radical, will be effective, which does not regard as the objects of its keenest solicitude, the children of that class. The problem of how far, in dealing with them, we may venture to sever the domestic relations which men, by common consent, regard as sacred, involves many and nice questions of individual right and public policy. Yet it has been half-solved already by legislative action. Few would venture now to question the right of the State to carry into effect a scheme of compulsory education, or to limit the age at which a child may be put to labor, or to protect it against undue punishment on the part of its parents. Yet in these and kindred measures government usurps, in a sense, the prerogative which belongs to the parent. It does this upon the principle that the State is entitled to the service of all its citizens, and this includes the right to supervise the training of its citizens for that service. If it may justly seclude from the companionship of his fellows the citizen who neglects to perform that duty, why may it not remove from the same citizen the children whom he refuses to educate for the service of the State? For this work, I admit, the appliances are wanting to our municipal and State government. What is needed for the training of the neglected children of the poor is not a House of Refuge with the taint of crime clinging to its inmates, but Industrial Schools, where the rudiments of letters and where useful trades are systematically and thoroughly taught. Such schools are no longer an experiment in France, and the time is more than ripe for them here.

I acknowledge that two objections may be urged against the scheme, the mere outlines of which I have scarcely drawn. One is that it trenches, in some degree, upon our theories of personal freedom and responsibility; and the other is that it will cost. I have anticipated, in a measure, the first objection, and I will add only a word. The relationship of the sexes and that of parent and child are holy relationships, and should not be lightly touched by the civil power. But should they be allowed to become the means of propagating crime? The professional vagrant (who is also a criminal, because he sins against the first law of human society,) systematically perverts these relationships into agencies of anarchy. We have seen that he has no stake in the welfare of the body-politic; he contributes nothing to its wealth or security, and he is not merely a burden, but a positive enemy to its progress. What more can be said of the worst criminal? But he is also blind to the tears even of his own offspring. By what right, I ask, is he permitted to exercise the authority of a parent, whose whole endeavor is to render his children the slaves of his appetites, and the sworn foes of society? It is an outrage to decency, in connection with such an one, to talk to me of the sanctity of parental affection or even of parental instinct. Every day that I live I see children who are strangers to all the joys of childhood, half-clad and hungry, wearily selling their small wares upon the streets, or appealing for alms—

for what purpose? Why every man who sees them knows that the penalties for which these little ones barter their lives, go to keep a wretch who calls himself their father in bloated and beastly existence. There is something holy in the ties of maternity, even in the most degraded, but there is something holier in childhood, with its infinite possibilities of good. There is something momentous in the idea of personal freedom; but there is something more momentous in the well-being of society, without which individual freedom would perish.

And the cost: Yes, it would cost. You can not take 1,000 or 10,000 paupers from the slums, where vice thrives even while it hides, and force them into habits of self-sustaining industry, without incurring expense. You can not take as many children from vicious surroundings and educate them, by slow processes, into useful citizenship, without cost. But if we are to introduce arithmetic into a problem of morals, I am not sure that the cost will not yield a profit, even in money. If the millions which were destroyed in a single night at Pittsburg had been spent in reclaiming the vagrants who infested that locality, I know of one city whose bonds would sell better in the market than they do to-day. It was Edmund Burke who said that "in doing good we are generally cold and languid, and sluggish, and, of all things, afraid of being too much in the right. But the works of malice and injustice are quite in another style. They are finished with a bold, masterly hand; touched as they are with the spirit of those vehement passions that call forth all our energies whenever we oppress and persecute." I am not sure that the contrast which Burke deplored, does not exist among us. Every grand jury, for example, presents intemperance as the potent agent of pauperism. Yet our city boasts a license law so exquisitely adapted to the propagation of intemperance that, if human ingenuity, aided by Satan, had sought to contrive a better invention for the purpose, it would have ignominiously failed. So, too, we boast of an economy which builds cheap school-houses and cuts down the salaries of teachers: we may pay for that economy by building larger prisons, and uniforming new armies of policemen. History teaches, at least, one lesson which should never be forgotten: no luxury is so costly as vice and ignorance, and no investment is so profitable as their suppression.

WISDOM IN ADMINISTERING CHARITY.

BY REV. BENJ. L. AGNEW, D. D.

Whatever may be the misgivings in the minds of many as to the advisability of encouraging this comparatively new "Society for Organizing Charity," those of us who are pastors of churches in Philadelphia are painfully alive to the grossest of frauds which have been perpetually practiced upon us under the regime of the old organizations. Philadelphia has been denominated the "Paradise of Beggars," and simply because that under the multiplicity of organizations for the relief of the poor, wretched imposters have had every opportunity afforded them for practicing their deliberately-planned rascalities without fear of detection. For these and other sufficient reasons my earnest sympathies go out in prayers for the blessing of God to rest upon the efforts which this new organization is putting forth for suppressing mendicancy and systematizing the grand and beneficent work of relieving the deserving poor.

The celebrated Cicero, when relieved of political cares, was anxious to do something worthy of himself, and to profitably employ his unoccupied time as well as to relieve his heart of the burden of political disappointment; and we hear him plaintively saying, "I seek a medicine for my sorrow in philosophy, and consider this study the most honorable pastime for my leisure," and personifying philosophy and addressing her he says, "So now I surrender up myself entirely to you."

Ladies and gentlemen of Philadelphia, there is a profound philosophy underlying the proper administration of charity, and the lessons of practical wisdom which this society has already learned and taught the citizens of this great metropolis, and indeed other cities besides, are worth infinitely more than all the society has cost our people in dollars and dimes; and nothing could more profitably engage your leisure hours than an earnest study of the philosophy underlying this whole intricate business of relieving the deserving poor without making your charity organizations, as many of them are, though unintentionally, agencies for the encouragement of pauperism, thriftlessness, intemperance, villainy and fraud.

On this earth there are but three strictly divine institutions, and it is a singular fact, that all these institutions have poor in them to be cared for by the thrifty, able and benevolent. These institutions are the family, the church and the State. Each has its peculiar duties and responsibilities, which ought to be squarely met, and each should do its full share in relieving the distress of its own particular class; and after all, the benevolently disposed in every large city will find a tremendous burden upon their shoulders when they undertake the complicated work

of administering relief to the truly necessitous, without at the same time unintentionally encouraging vagrancy and crime.

I. Great wisdom is demanded in relieving actual, present, pressing distress.

Glance a moment at the classes to be relieved; children deprived of parental support, widows without the means of supporting themselves or families, the many who are unfortunate in business (for about ninety-five per cent. of our business men, it is said, fail in business), those who are from various causes incapacitated for business, the innumerable sick and crippled, the lazy and improvident, thieves, drunkards, gamblers, degraded men and fallen women, and all classes of bad people, mean people, mighty mean people, who, like everlasting horse-leeches, are unceasingly drawing the life-blood from our charitable organizations.

To relieve the deserving and distressed, charity must be enlightened and justice must not be blindfolded.

The family oftentimes needs help from outside, and experience has taught us that it is always better to try to keep the members together, and lift them up to self-support through industry, economy and temperance, than to send them to the almshouse to live upon the State; but it requires patient, tender, judicious management on the part of Relief Associations successfully to accomplish this most desirable undertaking.

The church usually can and does care for her own deserving poor, but the quintessence of meanness which is so sharply developed in the pauper class seems to revel in its infamy when it succeeds in having the names of a family at one and the same time enrolled upon the records of a dozen different churches; so that without some such united organization of ward associations as this, we have no conceivable means of detecting these ecclesiastical bummers, which are a dreadful disgrace to our holy religion.

But outside of the church there is a large class to be cared for, either by the State or by private benevolent citizens, and great level-headedness is required in relieving the actual, present, pressing distress everywhere around us. It is wrong not to give to the deserving, and it is equally wrong to give to the undeserving. Indiscriminate giving is a premium on pauperism and perfidy, and it educates our abominable and debased beggars to practice all manner of fraud, and to remain perpetually and perniciously to propagate a vile herd of lazy lazzaroni.

II. This leads me to lay down the proposition that wisdom is needed in the administration of charity to prevent future distress.

Most of professional beggars are also professional thieves, and they are transmitting their criminality to their unfortunate offspring, and a most important question arises here, how can the coming generations be protected from the crimes and degradation of their wretched parents? I once visited the House of Correction in Detroit, Mich., and the superintendent, Mr. Brockway, told me that he had found that the criminal classes had no idea at all of the moral guilt of the crimes for which they had been condemned; and that as soon, therefore, as criminals were placed under his care, his first business was to give them religious instruction and to put them at some steady mechanical employment, and thereby, as far as possible, build up character in the criminal, and prepare him to become a useful citizen, and also to earn an honest livelihood. Such convicts were seldom returned to the House of Correction after being once under his control during a protracted imprisonment.

Under the light of such experience the rigid enforcement of the vagrant act is not unmerciful, is not a hardship, does not produce wretchedness. It is a most merciful charity on the part of the State to measure out law and its penalties to the wrong-doer with both promptness and rigidity; and when these criminal classes are placed in confinement let them have that religious instruction which will make them understand the duty of obedience to the constituted authorities of the State, that will make them realize their responsibilities as members of society, and that will prepare them to live virtuous lives in the future; and let them, by all means, be taught a simple and suitable method of earning an honest living. To build up a stable, firm and virtuous character requires time and great care, and a short period of imprisonment only further degrades and demoralizes the little manhood left, and contributes nothing to the re-establishment of virtuous character. We want longer imprisonment and thorough religious instruction, with instruction also in the way of making an honest living.

Again, the State must take some effective measures to guard against the transportation of the criminal and dependent classes from foreign countries to the United States. Our free government is most grossly imposed upon by the governments of the Old World. Mr. S. H. M. Byers, United States Consul at Zurich, Switzerland, writes to the New York Tribune on the "Dangers of Immigration," and he says "that hundreds and thousands of paupers, crippled persons, criminals and even idiots are being sent to us by communities and local governments in Europe

is now beyond a doubt." One town in Switzerland has spent one and a half million francs to transport these criminals and dependent classes, and within a month another town has publicly voted \$40 a head to all who will emigrate."

A few months ago seven hundred Italians were shipped to the United States to go up and down our land seeking whom they may devour.

Nine-tenths of all our tramps are foreigners, and we must take effective measures to guard against the frightfully evil consequences which must necessarily flow from the immigration of these condemned and degraded criminal classes. We must call upon the kindly aid of our intelligent, thrifty and respectable citizens of foreign birth to come to our assistance in this direction, and thereby protect their fair fame from a procedure on the part of foreign governments which is calculated to bring reproach upon the very name of foreigner.

Another means of the prevention of pauperism in the future is to materially change the laws regulating the administration of charity by the State, and have our courts appoint the most judicious of our citizens as Guardians of the Poor, and remove the administration of charity from the hands of our party politicians; for experience has taught that the ordinary methods of relieving the poor by the State have only a tendency to degrade the families of the poor and to insure a prolific crop of blasted beggars to be garnered in the Alms-house to rot in moral putrefaction.

If we do not devise better means for relieving the poor we shall have a constantly augmented force of paupers crying at our doors, gorging our poor-houses and filling our jails.

Look at London. See her 170,000 beggars parade her streets, at an annual expense of \$17,000,000, directly paid out by the Overseers of the Poor and the Charitable associations of the city. One hundred dollars a year, on an average, given to each beggar, besides all the cost of prisons, courts, policemen, etc., rendered necessary by their loathsome presence, and besides all the alms they beg from door to door, and all they steal, and all the crimes they daily, nightly, hourly commit!

Then, again, we must prevent future pauperism and crime by exercising unceasing vigilance over the children of criminal and pauper parents. They must be rescued from the schools of crime in which they are being educated, and compelled by law either to go to school or learn a trade, and prepare for honorable self-support.

Nothing is more imperatively demanded to prevent future pauperism and crime than an amendment to our State Constitution to forever prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors as a common beverage. One year that I remember, the outlay of the city of Philadelphia for prisons, criminal prosecutions, poor houses, etc., etc., rendered necessary by the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, amounted to \$57 for every dollar paid into the treasury of the city for license to pour out the burning streams of desolation, death and destruction!

Some say, "It is no use to legislate on this subject of temperance, for men will sell and men will drink whether we give them license or not." Why, then, have any laws against crime? Why have laws against theft? Men will steal! Why have laws against murder? Men will kill! Why have laws against counterfeiting our National currency? Men will make counterfeits in spite of law! Why have laws against breach of trust? Your employes will pocket your money and spend it in gambling in spite of all your laws! No, fellow-citizens; we must have good laws, and execute them as well as possible; and a constitutional amendment prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage would relieve us of three-fourths of all our poverty, insanity, misery and crime.

III. We need wisdom in the administration of charity to secure the confidence of contributors to and benefactors of our various benevolent and charitable organizations.

This society is organized to assist in detecting frauds, and in discovering and relieving the deserving poor; and in view of the immense importance of these objects it is deserving of your heartfelt sympathy and earnest co-operation.

Wise men of all occupations and benevolent ladies of intelligence meeting together from time to time to relate their experience and to discuss the various methods adopted in relieving distress and in preventing pauperism and crime cannot but have a most beneficial influence, and the accumulated wisdom of all these ladies and gentlemen will materially aid in the improvement of our laws, in the elevation of the degraded and in securing the active sympathy of thousands who are now indifferent to the woes and wants of the poor and unfortunate.

And, finally, this society by its peculiar facilities for gaining the facts in regard to the real distress in the community secures the confidence of the benevolently disposed, and the beautiful work of charity progresses with ever new and fresh vigor, and the deserving poor have their condition ameliorated, and many are stimulated to honorable and effective self-support. May God bless this charming charity.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 4.
WHOLE NO. 16.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 15, 1881.

TERMS, 5 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 50 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
- 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
- 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

The Gen. Sec., Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 North 4th St., or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut St.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Wm. S. Stokely (*ex-officio*)

WARD.

3. A. C. Deakne, M.D.,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,
5. Wm. S. Price,
6. Thomas M. Seeds,
7. R. C. McMurtrie,
8. Alexander Brown,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

11. J. Christian Miller,
12. W. Fred. Snyder,
13. Jas. V. Watson,
14. Henry M. Laing,
15. Geo. Burnham,
16. I. A. Sheppard,
18. John Clouds,
19. A. H. Overholt,

WARD.

20. Wm. Y. Colladay,
22. Jabez Gates,
23. Samuel Bolton,
27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
28. Rev. C. H. Kimball,
29. Geo. W. Simons,
30. A. A. Catanach,
31. Robert Mair,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

- H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)
Joshua L. Baily (V. Pres.)
John H. Atwood,
Rudolph Blankenburg,
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,
H. T. Child, M.D.,
A. C. Deakne, M.D.,

- Nelson F. Evans,
Philip C. Garrett,
Thos. C. Hand, Jr.,
Thos. S. Harrison,
Samuel Huston,
Rev. D. Otis Kellogg, D.D.,
Josiah R. Sypher,

- Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Geo. N. Torrence,
Albert B. Williams,
Robt. N. Willson.

MEETINGS UNTIL FEBRUARY 15TH.

- | | | |
|----------|--------------|--|
| Monday, | January 24, | 8 P. M., Board of Directors.* |
| Tuesday, | February 1, | 3 P. M., Women's General Conference.† |
| Monday, | February 7, | 8 P. M., Assembly.† |
| Friday, | February 11, | 5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.* |
| Monday, | February 14, | 8 P. M., Board of Directors.* |

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers,

EDITORIAL.

SYSTEMATIC CHARITY NOT MECHANICAL.

So far from Organized or Associated Charity being mechanical and repressing the enthusiasm or the generous instincts of its workers, it adds to the ranks of the workers a thousand fold, and gives them conscience, courage, concord, wisdom and success.

WOOD-YARD AND LABOR-TEST.

Agreeably to the intimation in our Annual Report, we are glad to announce the opening of a wood-yard, at 1722 Lombard St., where temporary labor can be given to able-bodied men out of work, and their industry and earnestness may be tested, before permanent situations are sought for them. The yard is the joint enterprise of the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Ward Associations, and is under the superintendence of Dr. E. P. Jefferis. The business office is at 1534 Sansom St., where the kindling wood produced at the wood-yard is sold at the usual prices.

SUBJECT FOR NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Assembly, on the first Monday in February (7th), at the N. E. cor. of 15th and Market Sts., at 8 P. M., as usual, the subject under consideration at the January meeting, namely, *"Visitation and Women's Work,"* having proved of so great interest, will by special request be continued. Members are earnestly requested to bring their experiences and suggestions for the general information, illustrated by cases under their care.

N.B. The time for the February meeting of the Women's General Conference has been changed to the first Tuesday in the month (Feb. 1st), at 3 P. M. It will be held at the usual place.

CO-OPERATION AMONG CHARITIES.

The advantages to all dispensers of Charitable Relief, of intercourse with others working in the same territory, is too obvious to need enforcement. Some may know more and have more experience, and some less; but all can learn and teach something; and if their aims are *to do the most good*, they have no reason, as they have no right, to work by themselves. They misuse the funds entrusted to them, if they neglect to avail themselves of all attainable knowledge collected by others, and thus to avoid the pitfalls into which others have stumbled; and they are uncharitable if they refuse to permit others to profit by their successes and mistakes. The isolation hedging about such Societies is naught but inexcusable, even if thoughtless, selfishness.

THE INVESTIGATIONS OF ISOLATED SOCIETIES.

A leading New York City paper recently gave some sound suggestions to charitable societies who claim credit for their investigations, and solicit the confidence of the public because of the judicious scrutiny with which they examine all applicants for relief. The suggestions are quite as applicable to Philadelphia, and we commend their consideration to all concerned. The *Herald* says:

"Suppose each society were to investigate closely every application for charity; suppose some one were to accompany every applicant to his home and see that the bare floors, the scanty clothing, the empty pantry, the sick wife and the half dozen children are just as reported, what assurance is there then that the same family is not playing the same trick upon half a dozen other societies and laying up money from the proceeds of extra clothing and provisions received? Such cases have been found, here and in other cities; there seems no limit to the trickery of the professional beggar. But were there an office managed by those

cieties in common, in which record could be kept, for the general benefit, of the names and residences of all persons who are receiving relief, and of those who have applied and been proved impostors, the loss by deception would be reduced to almost nothing. How great this loss is when money, food or clothing is given upon mere request may be imagined to some extent when we say that of the persons who wish to be brought to the attention of the charitable, about nine in ten are impostors. Were there in New York facilities for a general interchange of information on such subjects, as there are in Boston and Philadelphia, the information obtained would save many thousands of dollars yearly for the societies, and the sum would be greatly swelled by similar information from all other investigators. Societies might learn from a general clearing house of city charities of deserving cases in their own immediate neighborhoods. The people would give more liberally—for there are absolutely no bounds to New York's generosity—if assured that the money would by no possibility be wasted, as much of it is now. Some of the societies incessantly demand such a system of interchange as we have outlined; *why do others oppose it?*

LABOR FOR RELIEF-ASKERS

Two years and more ago the city of Providence, awakened to the intolerable evil of the prevailing methods of Out-Door-Relief, opened a Charity-building and wood-yard combined, for the purpose of applying a labor-test to the multitudinous Tramps who sought the shelter of the station-house; and of supplying work as a regimen for the able-bodied residents who claimed relief from the Overseer of the Poor. Not only had the taxation to support the station-houses and to furnish this relief become very onerous, but the authorities began to realize that all out-door relief from the public funds is *per se* demoralizing; that the acceptance of gratuitous public charity kills out self-respect, and creates an increasing appetite for the alms which are easier to procure than honest wages, whilst the recipient's family are thereby demoralized, and the children and children's children grow up, a prolific race, in ever-deepening degradation. Therefore the city established the wood-yard to see if "Employment as a basis of relief" could be made practicable. At the end of 23 months the overseer was called upon for a full report, from which we abstract the following particulars.

The total expenses of the Wood-Yard, (including \$14,400 paid for wood) were (omitting cents).....	\$30,238
The total expenses of the Charity Building, (including \$959 paid for fitting up and furnishing) were.....	4,112
Total disbursements.....	34,350
The total receipts, including value of wood and property remaining on hand, were.....	27,454
Making a net cost for 23 months of.....	\$6,896
Against this cost is to be placed the gain in expenses for Out-door relief, which, for 23 months preceeding the establishment of the charity-building and wood-yard, amounted to..	\$43,624
And for the 23 months during which the same were in operation	13,562
Or a reduction of.....	30,062
Deducting the net cost of the wood-yard, etc., as above	6,896
Shows a net gain in favor of the labor test, of.....	\$23,166

Of the amount expended at the wood-yard, \$10,824 were paid out for labor to resident applicants, instead of giving them free relief as heretofore and so supporting them in idleness. No resident, who was really needy, was refused work; while at the same time the wages were not so attractive, but that the laborer would bestir himself to find more lucrative work as soon as possible.

The whole effect has been most gratifying, and has fully demonstrated the sound wisdom of the new method. The vicious and chronic idlers, who pleaded that they had no work and their families were in consequence starving, were forced to labor when they found aid withheld unless they earned it. The veterans who for years had sponged on the city relief fund, avoided the office as soon as the wood-yard opened its hospitable doors, and either found other means of support or removed to other towns where labor was not exacted. The citizens, understanding that all wayfarers would be fully provided with meals and lodgings, conditioned on a moderate amount of labor, co-operated by referring all applicants to the charity building; and at once the professional tramps began to abandon the city, which is now remarkably free from them. The same provision also was ample for all cases of friendless women and children, to whom 2,854 meals were given, besides suitable lodgings to most of those who were fed, who otherwise would have had no resource but the station-house or the street. Thus the new system is as beneficent as it is wise.

This testimony is a strong proof of the wisdom of Philadelphia in cutting off out-door relief through the Guardians of the Poor, and should also be an incentive to the authorities to institute here, the same labor-test. We have far too many tramps and resident paupers, who secure an easy living from mis-applied charity, and the evil will not cease until the community realizes that no able-bodied stranger should receive relief of any kind, except in return for work performed.

[COMMUNICATED.]

CHARITY ORGANIZATION IN INDIANAPOLIS.

The problems of poor relief in a city of 80,000 are not as great as in our large cities, still they are grave enough and complex enough to call for thoughtful consideration and united effort of all who have at heart the well being of society and the helping of the poor.

CO-OPERATION.

In our Association of Charities, the principal agencies are the Township Trustees, who distribute the public aid; the Indianapolis Benevolent Society, now forty-four years old, through which unofficial charity is largely distributed; the Flower Mission which cares for all the sick poor in the city; the City Dispensary; and various individuals representing churches.

The agencies now associated are adequate to the relief of all need in the city, their funds being ample or easily obtained.

The fact that these Societies are represented in every meeting of a District Committee ensures the *immediate* and *adequate* relief of all applicants; and further, takes from the Society the necessity of giving relief itself, either by grant or loan. It is purely administrative. Its expenditures are known to be those incident to administration. It encounters no criticism on the score that it spends one dollar in giving a dollar, since it gives nothing whatever.

In our associated work thus far we have had the cheerful co-operation of our leading societies. But it is not always easy to determine what shall be done in individual cases; the "personal equation" disturbing the attempt to work out results under the established principles.

EMPLOYMENT.

Thus: while work is plentiful it is not equally distributed. There are always men and women out of work through no fault of their own. The shutting down of certain winter industries, or of industries influenced by special causes throws men and women out of work. It requires at least \$3 per week for the maintenance of a family. Many women are averaging only \$2 per week. We found it difficult to settle whether an applicant could or could not get work; to apply the labor test of Paul; to determine the exact need. To assist in the solution of this problem the Indianapolis Benevolent Society started a

FRIENDLY INN AND WOOD-YARD.

This has two lines of work. It is a lodging house for tramp or transient, where good food and clean beds may be had in return for work on the wood-pile. It also offers work to all men who are temporarily out of work at 70c. a day, or 7c. per hour; or on "piece work." During the last month about 450 persons have had work in the yard, and wages to the amount of \$400 have been paid. We bring in wood on the railroads, or buy from farmers. The public take the product of the yard at market rates. A list of men who have had work during the week, together with the amounts paid them, is furnished the Township Trustees weekly.

When the last report was handed in, a little girl was in his office asking for relief on the ground that her father was sick. The roll showed that he had had work at the yards sufficient for self-support. We expect this yard to pay all its own expenses. It should do so, since similar yards are sources of profit. The Charity Organization Society use this yard in referring all cases where there is an able-bodied man or large boy in the family. The public have co-operated by referring all tramps and beggars.

WORK FOR WOMEN.

But something more is needed—a similar provision for women. Could some industry be started by which women could work one dollar's worth weekly, it would take fully a hundred deserving women from the Township Trustee's office.

We are considering the opening of a laundry. Laundries pay, when they do good work at fair rates. The laundry operated at the Women's Reformatory is successful. The difficulty lies in the obtaining of public confidence. We are now only waiting for management. When we can find a committee of women, who will take charge of such an enterprise, work it upon business principles, the Benevolent Society will furnish the money.

A proposition has been made to the Society to start a factory to be

worked by women, which shall manufacture some article for which there is a demand, and on which there is a fair profit. The capital will be furnished to any amount necessary. The enterprise will be operated for the benefit of the employees. In the building a room would be provided for the young children of the operatives, and a kindergarten teacher employed. The main thing to find is the article to be manufactured. How far such an enterprise could be successfully operated under the laws of trade is a question.

The movement of charitable relief must be along the lines of *friendship and work*. This latter is a line as yet unopened.

It is worth while trying. One of the best writers on this subject, John Ruskin, says that the essential of true charity is work. He says that the state's duty lies in this direction. If the cities and countries would give powers to certain boards of charities similar to those given boards of education or health, the problem could be solved of improving the condition of the poor. The amount of money now given in out-door relief is more than enough to provide work for the needy.

OSCAR C. McCULLOCH.

P. S.—The following hand-bill is widely distributed for the benefit of citizens:

FRIENDLY INN AND WOOD-YARD, 290 WEST MARKET STREET.

This charity, started by the Indianapolis Benevolent Society, is now in successful operation. It gives food and lodging to any transient man or woman who may be a stranger in the city. In return for this, it requires work in the house or in the wood-yard.

In addition to this, it gives work to any man out of work at wages enough to keep him and his family from want or from begging.

The Society asks of you:

1. To supply yourself with tickets from the office, and to refer every man to the Friendly Inn for care and for work.

2. That you assist in carrying on the enterprise by purchasing wood from the yard. This wood is cut and split, is of the best quality, of hard, dry, body wood, and is full measure. It will be sold at the current market rates, and will be delivered to any part of the city.

Address orders to the Central Office, Room 45, 70 East Market Street, or to the Yard, 290 West Market Street.

The price of wood to-day is, Cut, ; Cut and Split,
INDIANAPOLIS, 188 .

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

DECEMBER MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

At the first meeting of the Board as newly constituted at the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.:

Dr. H. Lenox Hodge, President of the Board.

Joshua L. Baily, Vice-pres. " "

Benj. H. Shoemaker, Treasurer " Society.

Charles D. Kellogg, General Secretary " "

The Annual Report, as received from the Annual Meeting of the Society, was ordered to be printed in accordance with the Society's instructions. (The document is now in press and will soon be issued.)

A friend of the Society having kindly offered to pay the expense of printing the papers and addresses presented at the Annual Meeting, the Board authorized the issue of an Extra number of the Monthly Register devoted to their publication.

The general condition of the Ward Associations was reported by the General Secretary, and measures were discussed for organizing Associations in the Wards unoccupied by the Society; and the matter of taking the necessary steps therefor was referred to the Committee on Ward Associations.

The Committee on the Suppression of Beggary reported a meeting with the Finance Committee of Councils by special invitation, to consult concerning the practicability of cleaning the streets of the City by the labor of inmates of the House of Correction.

The Chair reported a Conference held in New York by the N. Y. Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, at which Messrs. Hodge, Sypher and Kellogg of this Board and Robert T. Paine, jr., Esq., of Boston, were present by special invitation to consult as to the principal difficulties in the way of Charitable relief in that City, and how the methods of Organized Charity could be applied to overcome them.

Complaints were received of a revival of the nuisance of girls begging under pretence of peddling, in certain sections of the City, and were referred to the Committee on Suppressing Beggary for action.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular meeting of the Women's General Conference was held Monday, Dec. 13th, at 10 a. m., the president, Mrs. Gillingham, in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, and Mrs. Ruth H. Smedley, of 23d Ward, was elected Assistant Secretary.

Mrs. Hill, of 15th Ward, offered the following resolution, which was laid over under the rules for consideration and action at the next meeting, viz.:

"That Article XI of the By-laws be altered to read, 'by a majority of the members present', instead of 'by a majority of the representatives.'"

Mrs. Hardy, from Toronto, Canada, addressed the Conference on a work in which she has been actively engaged for many years, namely, the reformation of young women who have gone astray.

Mrs. Hardy is a Massachusetts lady, and many years ago became interested in this subject. Struck by the number of young girls who fled from Canada to the United States, she went to the Dominion, and traveled from city to city. At Kingston she visited the penitentiary, and aroused such an interest in the subject that the largest meeting ever assembled there to listen to a woman was held in that city, the Mayor presiding.

Since then she has taken up her residence in Canada, and has established in Toronto a private Home, not labeled by a name which will brand those who being reformed issue from it. It is under her careful personal supervision, and sustained by her own efforts. Noble-hearted physicians and ministers have co-operated with her, and enabled her to accomplish a great work in an unobtrusive manner. Many instances were given of girls who had been saved at the Home in question, who afterwards lived pure and useful lives.

Mrs. Hardy said, in referring to Organized Charity Work: "Do not let men or women feel that they are paupers, but teach them how to earn honest bread."

Interesting discussion followed upon specific and difficult cases occurring in the experience of some of the Visitors, and afterwards upon the necessity of closer attention being paid to the matter of industrial education, as training the poor to such habits and dexterity as would enable them the better to earn their own support.

Mrs. Gillingham thought if a boy could have but one kind of education, a mental or industrial training, the industrial was to be preferred.

Mrs. Lucas, of 10th Ward, considered that too much stress was placed on scholastic education, which was becoming too artistic to meet the needs of the poorer classes.

Mrs. Ames said, we must not condemn the higher education in the wholesale, because a present system might be defective. What is needed is, a trained mind that would fit men for any position. Do not make specialists of men, as are English workmen, who can do but a part of one thing, and, when thrown out of that narrow line of work, are helpless; but give them trained minds, and, like the Yankee workman, they can turn from one thing to another in an emergency. Early mental training will fit them either for manual labor or for books.

The president stated to the Conference the necessity for a committee to collect particulars and results of the work of the Visitors as a basis for an Annual Report; and the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That this body appoint a Committee of Three or Five, to be called the Committee on Records and Reports, to take charge of preparing accurate accounts, every month, of the work reported to this Conference, which may be used for the preparation of the Annual Report. This Committee should also be empowered to use any interesting information connected with this work for the same object.

Mrs. Biddle, of 7th Ward, Mrs. Mumford, of 29th Ward, and Miss Jean A. Flanigen, 7th Ward, were appointed such Committee, and

The meeting then adjourned to the second Monday in January, 1881.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

JANUARY 3, 1881.

The Assembly held its regular monthly meeting this evening at the usual hall, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge in the Chair. The attendance was quite large. After the reading of the minutes of the December meeting by the Secretary, Mr. Thos. C. Hand, jr., the Chair announced the Standing Committees of the Assembly for the current year as follows:

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Prof. R. E. Thompson, Chairman; Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, A. B. Williams, Mrs. S. I. Lesley, Mrs. O. Seidensticker.

VISITATION AND WOMEN'S WORK.

Mrs. S. I. Lesley, Chairman; Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Miss Pendleton, Miss S. Reed, Mrs. J. C. Biddle, Mrs. Rich'd Paxson, Miss Julia A. Myers, Miss Jane Weaver, Miss Beulah Coates, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, Miss Meta Paul, Joseph P. Brinton, Mrs. H. P. Taylor, Mrs. Fanny B. Ames, James Whitall.

EMPLOYMENT.

Nelson F. Evans, Chairman; Adam A. Catanach, Rev. J. Andrews Harris, D.D., Mark Balderston, Geo. Burnham, Joseph P. Brinton, James Dougherty, Wm. King, Rev. Chas. G. Ames, Mrs. J. P. Mumford, Miss Sarah Newlin, Miss Fanny Clark, Mrs. J. C. Biddle, Miss Lloyd, Mrs. John Lucas.

PROVIDENT HABITS.

Philip C. Garrett, Chairman; James T. Shinn, John Clouds, Joseph L. Caven, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. Spencer Roberts, Mrs. Henry Cohen, Mrs. Ellen M. Child, Miss Anna Hollowell, Miss Susan Roberts, Mrs. E. D. Cope, Job Hambleton, Joseph Ashbrook, Israel H. Johnson, Jos. M. Truman, jr.

MEDICAL CHARITIES.

Dr. Benj. Lee, Chairman; Dr. Sam'l D. Gross, Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, Dr. Francis W. Lewis, Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, Dr. Hannah T. Croasdale, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Henry C. Lea, Dr. R. E. Rogers, Dr. J. K. Collins, Dr. A. C. Deakyn, Miss H. S. Biddle, Dr. Hiram Gold, Dr. William D. Stroud, Dr. Harrison Duffield.

EDUCATION AND CARE OF CHILDREN.

Geo. N. Torrence, Chairman; Joseph K. Wheeler, James S. Whitney, Rev. Samuel Pancoast, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, John C. Maule, Miss Anna Hollowell, Mrs. Wm. C. Head, Miss C. K. Meredith, Rev. Robt. E. Thompson, James C. Biddle, Miss Pendleton, Edward T. Steel, Mrs. Fanny B. Ames, Mrs. Dan'l Haddock, jr.

DEFECTIVE CLASSES.

Rev. Henry L. Wayland, D.D., Chairman; Rev. Dan'l R. Goodwin, D.D., Dr. Wm. D. Stroud, Sam'l Welsh, Miss Julia A. Myers, Miss Starr, W. R. Chapman, W. W. Patton, Benj. B. Comegys, Edward S. Whelen, Henry Haines, Rob't M. Lewis, John S. Jenks, Joseph L. Jones, Rev. Charles H. Kimball.

HYGIENE, SANITARY MEASURES, ETC.

Dr. Henry T. Child, Chairman; George K. Cross, Mrs. John Lucas, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, Mrs. Rudolph Blankenburg, William J. Gillingham, Dr. William H. Ford, Rev. Dr. Mayer Elkin, Miss Lydia A. Schofield, Gen'l H. G. Sickel, Dr. Benj. Lee, Henry Gawthrop, James Whitall, Dr. E. Stanley Perkins.

PENAL AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Hon. William S. Peirce, Chairman; George E. Taylor, Mrs. Wm. B. Collins, Wm. Ingram, Mrs. Theo. S. Rumney, Miss Lily H. Kay, Mrs. George I. Simons, Joseph G. Rosengarten, Job Hambleton, William Fisher Lewis, Miss E. C. McVicker, Dan'l F. Bussinger, Dr. Casper Wister, Wm. Hawkins, Alfred H. Love.

LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE POOR.

Wm. S. Price, Chairman; Richard C. McMurtrie, Joseph P. Brinton, P. Pemberton Morris, J. Fred'k List, Rob't N. Willson, Chas. Chauncey, Albert B. Williams, Josiah R. Sypher, Edward H. Weil, Hon. William S. Peirce, Chas. Matlack, Joseph G. Rosengarten, Mrs. Edward Coles, Mrs. Wm. D. Stroud.

PAUPERISM AND VAGRANCY, AND THEIR CAUSES.

Joshua L. Baily, Chairman; Philip C. Garrett, Wm. Heyward Drayton, John W. Townsend, Charles Spencer, William A. Smethurst, David Aaron, William H. Lucas, John L. Hough, Henry T. Coates, Rev. Rob't E. Thompson, Mrs. Enoch Lewis, Miss Lucretia Carr, Miss Cornelia Hancock, Mrs. Orlando Crease.

CHARITABLE AND CORRECTIONAL STATISTICS IN PHILADELPHIA.

Dr. Wm. D. Stroud, Chairman; Rev. J. Andrews Harris, D.D., J. Heatley Dulles, Hon. Rich'd Vaux, Joseph Ashbrook, Dr. Benj'n Lee, Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, James S. Biddle, Robert A. Kyle, Rev. Dan'l R. Goodwin, D.D., Josiah R. Sypher, Joseph G. Rosengarten, Mrs. James C. Biddle, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, Miss Anna Hollowell.

The Chair also reminded the Standing Committees of their duties, as stated in Article IV of the By-laws, which reads as follows:

"The Standing Committees shall meet at least once a month, and one-third of the members shall constitute a quorum.

"They shall keep full minutes of their proceedings, which, at all times, shall be open to the inspection of the Board of Directors and of the Assembly.

"Due notice of the meetings of the Committees shall be given through the mail by the respective Secretaries.

"In case of the death, resignation, or disability of any member of a Standing Committee, that Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy until the next stated meeting of the Assembly.

"The Committee on Arrangements shall designate which of the Standing Committees shall submit a written report at a meeting of the Assembly, assigning to these such order and times as the requirements of their subjects shall call for."

"Each Committee of the Assembly shall have power to associate with itself any members of the Society whose advice and assistance they think likely to promote its work."*

*Any person becomes a member, with full privileges, by subscribing to either the Society or any of its Ward Associations.

The following topic which had been assigned for consideration, was then taken up, viz.:

VISITATION AND WOMEN'S WORK.
VAGRANT CHILDREN.

The discussion was started by an inquiry, from Mrs. S. I. Lesley, as to the proper course to be pursued towards a widow, who was vicious and dissolute, and was raising her children in vagrancy, and who applied for fuel and food.

Replies were made by several Superintendents and Visitors, from their own ward experiences, that while saving the children as much as possible from undue suffering, the parents, whether widowed or not, should be left to suffer, not excessively but under watchful care, to such an extent that they may be led to realize the need of reforming their lives and acting up to their responsibilities. The sending out of children to beg is a criminal practice, and the strong arm of the law must be invoked to stop it. Under certain extremes the "Society to Protect Children from Cruelty" will step in to the rescue, but all can do much to put a stop to it by exhortations and moral suasion with the parents. The children beg under strong compulsion, and should by all means be rescued from such lives. They can be committed to the House of Refuge until such time as the parents prove their ability and willingness to keep them off the streets, and to take proper care of them. The Courts are always prompt to act in such cases to the extent of their power, to commit vagrant children to kind and safe keeping; but the Courts can not recognize as vagrants those found destitute and begging, unless at the same time it is proved that the parents can not and do not properly care for them.

Relief being refused to the parents, the work of the Association by no means ends there, as would the work of an ordinary relief-agency: its real and serious work rather *begins* then. The parents should be followed up most pertinaciously to induce and aid them to put their children to school, and urged and helped to adopt all possible reformatory and remedial measures which will lift both them and their children out of their debasement. The very application to the ward-office places the whole responsibility upon the Association, and even though material assistance be refused, the case should never be given up as long as hope of improvement exists, and while there is life there is hope. For very many who have been erased from the relief-lists as "undeserving" or "not-requiring", employment has been found, and in many other ways they have been substantially and permanently benefited.

The decision of "undeserving" is often misused by all societies to throw off responsibility, but it is not the Divine standard of Charity. God does not help only the good, or else it would have fared hard with all of us. It is not easy to say who are "undeserving", and it can only be determined after long acquaintance with all the circumstances; but when it is found that material aid would help to keep such in bad and vicious lives, then should they be plied with other kinds of help to better lives. We are not to give to gratify our warm and generous impulses; but by strict principle to fulfil our obligations under the second great commandment of the law "to love our neighbors as ourselves", and to show the love by such friendly and remedial ministrations as each case requires.

One Superintendent always refused material help to such abandoned parents, but strove all the harder to get permanent possession of the children, and place them beyond the degrading influences of what should be their "homes". Much encouragement had resulted from such persistent efforts, but the chief hindrance was, that other societies and individuals, without any comparison of information, and without seeking to have any knowledge of the moral and reformatory efforts already put forth, would interfere by doling out unwise relief, and so strengthen the parents in their dissolute and vicious ways, and often totally obstruct the progress already made in the rescue of the children.

(The above discussion was participated in by Mrs. Lesley, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. Fanny B. Ames, Miss Anna Hollowell, Dr. H. T. Child, Mr. Amos Bensall, Prof. R. E. Thompson, and Superintendents Hancock, Jefferis and Stone; but was so largely of a conversational character that it is difficult to make a report which shall credit to each their separate remarks.)

The question was then asked:

WHO SHOULD MAKE THE FIRST VISIT, THE SUPERINTENDENT OR THE VISITOR?

Dr. E. R. Stone, Superintendent of 29th Ward, said, that the first visit should be one of pure investigation, and that Visitors should be relieved from such inquisitorial work, as well as from the office of mere dispensers of relief, and be left entirely free to exert the moral influences, and the friendly sympathy and suggestion, which are their peculiar province. The exception in his Ward was in the case of those able-bodied applicants who had ample incomes, but applied only because they thought that

something was being freely distributed, and that they could have their share for the asking. Many of these were not of the degraded class, needing reformatory surveillance, but of those, otherwise respectable, who had been demoralized by the abundance of relief offered by the benevolent. He maintained that, if Visitors administer the relief, and pursue the formal investigations, they would lose all their influence for good, and find their appropriate work, as laid down by the Society, seriously interfered with.

Mr. Harold Goodwin, of the 27th Ward Board, was convinced that no absolute rule would hold good for the whole City, or even for a whole Ward, and especially in the large outlying or semi-rural Wards. Particular districts and particular cases must be discriminatingly considered. If the Superintendent thinks that, from the depraved character of the locality, or from the danger of disease, women Visitors should not venture, he should go first and ascertain the true conditions. Visitors often feel the risk, whether objecting to make the first visit or not; and it devolves then on the Superintendent to ascertain that the coast is clear, and then Visitors can venture intelligently. While Visitors should not be mere investigators, their specific reports are necessary as part of the ground of action by the Committee on Decision of Relief. Expert testimony is expected from the Superintendent, as well as the information gained under the more friendly and sympathetic eye of the Visitor; and the detective and the sympathetic opinions are to be compared in rendering a judgment. It often happens in his rural Ward that it is better for the lady Visitor to go first, and her visit, even then, need not be deemed an inquisitorial one; and the Superintendent afterwards verifies her opinion by an investigating call. Their Visitors are not expected to give of their own or the Society's means, (except in such emergencies wherein common humanity would dictate immediate relief from whoever might first discover the need,) and thus they were left free to exercise their fullest moral influence.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

But even both these investigations are not always reliable. A man lately applied for relief, who had a wife and four children, all in good health. He said he was a skilled mechanic who had earned \$18 a week, and that his oldest boy of 17 had worked with him on fair wages, but that the shop was closed, and the long cessation of labor had exhausted his means and his supplies, and they were out of fuel and suffering from the extreme cold. A careful Visitor examined the case immediately with much pains, and recommended that coal be sent to them at once. The Superintendent, fortified with his long experience, paid a visit and corroborated the Visitor's decision, and delivered a small amount of fuel. The Committee having time to examine further, with more deliberation as the emergency was provided for, learned from the man's employer that, instead of a long cessation of labor, the shop was closed but for a very few days for special repairs; and that the man, though skilled and earning high wages, was always improvident, in debt, and anticipating his wages; and the ease with which the charitable responded to his appeals, and made up his deficiencies encouraged him in his thriftless ways.

Another style of attempted imposition he called the "rent-sponge", and among those who figure in that line he instanced a mulatto woman with a small family, having a fair amount of work and other resources, who was in collusion with the owner of the tenement occupied by her to pay him an exorbitant rent, provided she could sponge it out of the easy-going charitable individuals or agencies. In return, he gave her regular work, which offset the rent, unless she could extract something from others by begging; in which case she was to pay \$10 per month for a wretched frame shanty, in the rear of a brick block in which dwellings were renting for about the same amount on the front street.

Another instructive case was that of a woman confined with a long and severe sickness, who hired a room in the house of a well-to-do Irish family. The family were very kind, and adequately provided for her, until an injudicious Church visitor to the invalid suggested that they should have pay for their trouble, and proposed to reimburse them from the Church funds. At this their previous kind friendship seemed utterly to disappear; and they became grasping, and kept demanding constantly increasing compensation until the Church's patience was exhausted. The poor are most kind to each other, unless you unwisely pay them for being kind; and in this case the whole kind neighborly spirit was destroyed by the needless suggestion to make money by it.

Mr. Joshua L. Baily, of the House of Industry, asked, how much drink had to do with the cases just quoted, because drink is so often at the bottom of cases of wilful deception; also, it was often necessary to ask, how many dogs were kept? In a recent case of severe destitution, which he visited himself, upon leaving the premises two large dogs (a spaniel and a St. Bernard) presented themselves. Asking to whom they belonged, the family acknowledged the ownership. Further inquiries showed that they couldn't afford to feed them regularly on meat, but they

could give them 25 lbs. of meal per week, which would have nearly supported the entire family. Thus the dogs did not eat of the crumbs that fell from the master's table, but the children's bread was actually dealt out to them.

Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, of the 20th Ward, referred to the investigation ticket, by which the Ward Association announces that it "takes care of the poor" of the Ward. If every Ward were thus covered, and all charitable societies would work harmoniously, the effect would be complete; but blind overlapping obstructs the work most mischievously. In a certain case in her Ward all relief was withheld, because it was unwise and needless to give it; but it was persistently and closely followed with all remedial influences for two years, with hopeful encouragements, until a recent application to a prominent relief society brought $\frac{1}{2}$ a ton of coal to the family door, without any intelligent examination into the case, or consultation with those who did know; and the result was, that the coal was sold for about half its value as it lay on the sidewalk, and the proceeds went for liquor. The coal was dumped on the sidewalk at 1 o'clock; at 2 o'clock it was sold for \$1.75 at 3 o'clock the mother was drunk for the first time for months. Thus the influence of the Association over the case for good was greatly injured.

Another case that caused them much trouble was that of an able-bodied stone-cutter, too indolent to labor, who for years had spent his time in piteous appeals for relief from merchants and others down town, instead of seeking work. Fortified by a letter from a prominent citizen who recommended him "from his appearance and what he says" without a shadow of knowledge or investigation, the man worked on the sympathies of the benevolent and lived bounteously, while letters flowed into the Ward-office to know why Mr. So-and-so was not investigated and relieved. It was a case of the plainest imposition, but what could be done to suppress such a case, and how far could the aid of the law be invoked?

(Each Ward Association might follow such cases up, through a law-committee of their own Board, or having none might employ a lawyer to prosecute it. Doubtless many a public-spirited legal resident of the Ward would give the needful attention as his contribution "pro bono publico", upon being reimbursed for his outlay of fees. The wards owe it to themselves to check such parasites.—Eds.)

Mr. Rudolph Blankenburg, of the 9th Ward, thought that while it was difficult to draw sharp lines between the work of the Visitors and Superintendents, the Visitors had ample field for their abilities in giving the advice and instruction which would improve the home-life, and suggest household economy and habits of providence. Much good was done last winter in his Ward in gathering the children for such instruction. They came together full of hope and expectation, were taught cleanly ways, and proper domestic habits, reading, sewing, and table-duties and manners; and the lower down in the scale of years the effort is made, the better will be the result, the better men and women will be reared. Such schools should be established by every Ward Association, and means in abundance will flow in for such special work when undertaken in earnest; as such efforts commend themselves to the popular judgment, and the people quickly see how much good is thus done. The 9th Ward Cooking and Sewing School, of last year, for about 25 girls cost but \$1.20 a day, all told.

Dr. Walk, Superintendent of the 15th Ward, hoped to learn the precise methods in all the Wards, so that among them all he could find some improvements to graft upon the 15th Ward. The plan adopted there is that, unless the applicant is drunk or manifestly vicious, the Visitor investigates the case, and also consults the employer, references, pastor, etc., and if perplexed, then she has recourse to the Superintendent and Directors. Cases are decided largely on her report. A large amount of office-work prevents the Superintendent of that Ward from usually making the first visit, and a brief interview can not be worth much. The Visitor also can often extract better information from employers and references than the Superintendent can, and will be received with more courtesy. Their Visitors do not give relief, but only recommend the grade and amount, as having better opportunities to discover the actual needs.

Mrs. John Lucas, of the 10th Ward, thought the Visitor should make the initial visit, on account of the difficulty of the Superintendent leaving the office so much; but if more shrewdness and business tact is needed, then the Superintendent should go. She also strongly advocated that each Ward should have its own Ward House, where a laundry, sewing-room, day nursery, kindergarten and labor-test could be maintained; and properly managed they would be nearly or quite self-supporting. It would open channels of work to nearly all applicants; and work is the crying need of all, and would cure a large majority of cases.

Mr. Amos Bonsall, of the 27th Ward, realized the great need of proper work for children, and quoted the experiment of a lady in that Ward, who gave instruction in her own kitchen to 25 children, two afternoons

a week, in kitchen-garden methods, and at its close gave an exhibition of their proficiency, which was remarkable. Girls of 14 years of age were more efficient and expert than three-fourths of the household servants of to-day. It cost only the superintendence and teaching, and so appreciative and careful were the children that, in the whole course, not a stain fell upon the kitchen-floor, so deftly was it all performed. Many ladies could do this with pleasure and profit to themselves, and so convert the material from which so many paupers are created into useful and independent members of the community.

Mr. Geo. N. Torrence, of the 14th Ward, enumerated some of the difficulties encountered in that Ward, where yet they were undecided as to who should make the first visit. He had experienced great gratification in visiting the Ward House of the 6th Ward Association, which contained, under one roof, a wood-pile as a labor-test in the cellar; a dining-room and kitchen for supplying meals when judicious; a kindergarten; a day-nursery; and lodgings for wayfarers and homeless ones of both sexes, under most orderly regulations. It is a practical exemplification of what is attainable in every Ward, at slight expense, and which would solve many a difficult case.

Mrs. Lesley stated that, in the 7th Ward, the Superintendent, as a rule, made the preliminary visit, and the result of that gave the lady Visitor a basis to go on; and that course had proved the wisest one for that district.

Miss Cornelia Hancock, Superintendent of the 6th Ward, found that her labor-test was of great assistance in determining the moral conditions of cases. The wood-pile was the best investigator she had.

Dr. Henry T. Child said, that they had supplied 560 meals at the 6th Ward Association House, at a cost of but \$4.80 above the receipts, not counting the rent and Superintendent's salary. Where work was done, the labor offset the cost of the meals. Some men, pleading hunger and poverty, were charged 5 cents for a meal, and then offered the chance to work it out and have the money refunded; but many of them declined the work and preferred to pay.

Dr. E. P. Jefferis, Superintendent of the 8th and 9th Wards, explained the present plans in the 8th Ward. Four ladies had been placed in the Board of Directors, insuring constant intercourse between Visitors and Directors, and the division of the Ward into districts was abandoned. Every case is laid before the Committee on Decision, after investigation by the Superintendent, and the Committee decide if immediate relief is required. A Visitor is then selected who seems best adapted to that special case, and the Superintendent advises her of his impressions and those of the Committee; and she investigates further, and reports at the next meeting of the Committee, the Superintendent also bringing in further information gained from references, employers, etc., and thus an intelligent judgment can be reached. From that time the case remains under the friendly supervision of the Visitor. The amount of real suffering has been greatly reduced in that Ward, because many families have become more provident and were leading more respectable lives, and the worst cases had scattered. Most marked benefit has resulted from the constant and regular consultations between Visitors and Directors, recently adopted.

Mr. Samuel Huston spoke for the Philadelphia Soup Society, in commendation of our investigation, coupled with the interchange of information regarding applicants. From a former yearly list of 900 families supplied with soup, the number was reduced to about 600 by use of the Police and the employment of a female Visitor. Last year, by close co-operation with our 4th and 5th Ward Superintendents, the number was reduced to 200 without refusing one worthy and needy case. At the opening of the Soup-house, this winter, they could not dispose of one-half of the soup provided, and had determined not to ask the public for a dollar of contribution this season.

Of course, the modes of investigation must vary according to the locality, and positive, uniform rules can not be adopted. He thought the 15th Ward Superintendent quite too modest; for any Ward that can show 164 cases of families of chronic paupers redeemed and converted into self-supporting and self-respecting citizens, after two years work, had every reason to be proud of the results.

Dr. H. Lenox Hodge, in closing the discussion, said that the subject of Visitation and Women's Work was a very large one. It touched upon nearly all the work of our Society. Many subjects had been debated to-night. He said that he would draw attention again to only a few of them.

Who should be visited? In the By-laws of the Society the answer is given: we there offer to take care of the poor. The reference is not merely to the poor who make application, but also to those who do not apply. These latter we are to seek, delicately, carefully and cautiously.

Who are to make the visits? Both the Superintendents and the Visitors.

What is to be done for the poor? Each individual case is to be carefully considered, relief given when necessary, and every endeavor made to help them help themselves.

Is this help to be extended both to the worthy and the unworthy? Our By-laws make no distinction. They say, "Take care of the poor."

How can we take care of the unworthy? By considering the causes of their unworthiness and of their poverty, and if possible removing them. If intemperance should be the cause, endeavor in every way to reclaim. If improvidence should be the cause, try to teach more provident habits. If there should be an intent to deceive by drawing relief from many sources, make this deception known, at least to those who have been deceived. Carry out faithfully and earnestly practical co-operation with all other societies and this overlapping of relief will be stopped.

Always remember that the children of the intemperate, of the improvident and even of those who are practising the basest deceptions, are innocent. Care for the children, be more kind to them than their parents are. By such endeavors you will save, it may be, some noble souls for our city and country.

The Assembly was thereupon adjourned.

PROVIDENT METHODS.

The following circular issued by some of our workers in the 8th Ward Association illustrates a practical step in teaching provident ways to those whose improvidence has kept them in poverty. We commend the experiment to Visitors and Directors in other wards, for it is applicable to all. Such help to the poor is vastly better than gratuities to make up their deficiencies of income; or than increase of wages, for it not only gives the wages more purchasing power, but it inculcates at the same time those habits of forecast and frugality which can lift them out of poverty.

WORKING WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.

The Committee and members of the Working Women's Co-operative Association, 1535 Moravian street, are prepared to extend the benefits of the Association.

A small number of women last winter bought their groceries together at wholesale—barrels of flour, chests of tea, bags of coffee and other articles—and distributed them among themselves. They found that they saved so much by clubbing together and buying at wholesale, that they, with the assistance of the Committee, took the house in Moravian street, No. 1535 for one year and paid \$2.00 apiece to purchase shares in the society which they have called the Working Women's Co-operative Association. The money paid for shares is a fund for purchasing provisions. A small profit is charged for paying rent and expenses, and the women go there and buy tea at 30 cts. a lb. which is selling at 50 cts. retail, and coffee at 21 cts. a lb. which is selling at 32 cts. retail. There is more or less saving on all other articles, such as flour, soap, raisins, butter, salt, mackerel, etc., with the exception of sugar, which is merely kept for the convenience of members as the wholesale and retail prices are very nearly the same in this article. One woman says that with her family of ten persons she saves 50 cts. a week on tea and coffee.

The shop is open at 1535 Moravian street, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 10 o'clock, when the woman in charge will receive new members, give receipts for payment of shares, and on the following open night will give the certificate from the Committee, made out in the new member's name.

Further information can be procured at the shop on these nights. The shares are reduced to \$1.00, as it only requires a limited amount of money from each person to make a large enough sum to purchase at wholesale prices.

CHARLOTTE PENDLETON,)
THEODORE STARR,) Committee.
M. J. B. CHEW.)

PLAN FOR INTERESTING THE PEOPLE OF THE WARD.

As suggestive to Ward Associations, we print herewith a copy of a circular recently issued, accompanied by a sheet of Investigation tickets, to every house in the 29th Ward where applications for relief were likely to be made, or work likely to be procured. A similar course in all the wards, would notify the citizens of our efforts for their protection and benefit, and would doubtless secure many friends.

29TH. WARD ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, 1910 MASTER STREET.

The citizens of the 29th Ward are earnestly requested to assist us in protecting them from imposture and in caring for the poor of the Ward.

We need not only the contributions and sympathy of new subscribers, but also all the *half-worn clothing and shoes* which you can spare.

You can also assist us greatly by applying at this office whenever you need women to wash or assist in general

HOUSE-WORK

by the day or single hour; or men to do laboring work of any kind about your houses and grounds. To give such employment to the poor is a thousand-fold better charity than to give them food and fuel while they fold their hands in forced or wilful idleness. We are careful to send out only those who have been thoroughly investigated by us, and are well recommended as trustworthy and deserving.

We are happy to present to our readers the thoughtful address of Robert N. Willson, Esq., of this City, made at our Annual Meeting, which we were not able to include in our Extra Number of January 1:

POSSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZED CHARITY.

BY ROBERT N. WILLSON, ESQ.

Mr. Chairman: I believe that Dorcas Societies, Soup Societies, and other organizations of a similar character are not to be found among the inhabitants of South Africa, or the Indians of our own country. In fact, the costume habitual to the Hottentot is simple, and very natural. Both he and the Indians have few wants of appetite which can not be supplied from the spontaneous products of Nature. They have no fear of landlords or delinquent tax-collectors, or any other similar terrors peculiar to civilized life. By such illustrations, it appears that the civilization of which we boast so much, involves men and women in conditions which create many necessities which are, to a large degree, artificial, and yet are quite imperious.

Pauperism is one of the results of civilized life. You do not find paupers of the English or American type among rude peoples. They have not reached that point of development as yet.

It seems to me, therefore, that as civilization has given to so many the opportunity to reach that state of degradation which we call pauperism, as it is in communities where men are crowded together in large numbers that the causes of this condition are principally found, it is one of the prime and most important duties which are incumbent upon an organized, civilized community like ours to do what it can to remove these causes and to elevate those whom it has assisted to depress, by the peculiar conditions of its social life, into habits and traits of character, which will make them safer citizens and better men.

Now, there are two classes of the poor. There are those who are poor by what we call the accidents, the providences, of life; those who by sickness, or by some disaster, have lost what may have been acquired by hard toil, and have been brought down from comfort to poverty. Among such, you will find many who are possessed of as much manliness, dignity and force of character, as in any portion of the community. Indeed, it may be said with truth that many of this class are vastly more worthy of respect than the paupers in spirit, who have opportunities of generous culture and large means for benevolence and healthful activity, but have no real, sober, earnest purpose in life.

But there is another class of paupers. They are, as a rule, vicious. Their condition is essentially criminal. If not originally chosen by preference over something better it has been persistently adopted and practised, when it could have been improved and wholly removed. It may seem harsh to some, but I believe there are many of this class who ought not to be allowed to curse their homes, and bring down to a common debasement and infamy the wives and children, who desire to struggle for better things. Just what should be the solution of this problem is a question of most serious moment, and this Society has much to do in throwing light upon it.

During many years past, large numbers of impostors have simply preyed upon the benevolence and good-nature of this and other communities. The chief magistrate of this city would tell you that a large proportion of the street-beggars whom you see are criminal at heart if not by actual practice, and that the habit of such begging seems to tend, by necessary consequence, to develop habits of crime. A slight inspection will disclose that most of them are uncleanly, many of them not quite-sober, and a visit to their houses will, in frequent cases, show them huddled together like snakes, in horrible disregard of the decencies of life.

Doubtless, an occasional appeal is made upon the street which might well be heeded. If it can be found meritorious by personal investigation you would do well to respond to it. Without the benefit of such supplementary knowledge, there can be no doubt that men and women act unwisely and mischievously, instead of charitably, when they give indiscriminately to the beggars of the street.

Besides these impostors, there have been many of another character who have gone the rounds of beneficent and charitable organizations, and obtained more than duplicated relief. They have preyed upon Church Societies, and taken advantage of the friendly rivalry which exists between different denominations. The same family, by judicious and careful management, has been clothed by more than one such society at the same time. Children of the same family have been sent to one Sunday-school in the morning and another in the afternoon, and both have been used as means for substantial relief, which has frequently been improperly used afterwards. Every person who has been at all identified with the charitable work of Philadelphia churches during the past few years knows that there has been a vast deal of imposition of this character, which there has been no ready means of preventing, or even ascertaining.

The highest impulses of religion have thus been drawn upon to perpetuate habits of idle dependence. Of course, no one will understand me as saying that all relief thus afforded has been unwisely given, or unworthily sought or used. I am merely referring to the fact that indiscriminate, duplicate giving, has existed in this and other forms to a large degree, and that no simple and practical method of preventing the evil has been available.

Now, this Society has come into the field not as an interloper, or an unfriendly critic of previous charitable efforts, but in the most friendly spirit, and proposes to afford a central and convenient means for correcting the evil of giving relief either in duplicate, or without an intelligent knowledge of the necessities of the persons assisted.

It aims to utilize the best results of the large amount of thought and study which have been given to the great subject of charity, and to put them into as simple and practical a form as possible.

It would be a sort of clearing-house for the collection and exchange of information, which will simplify and assist the benevolent work of all who desire to know that what they do in this direction is done well.

As we have recently heard from Mr. Hughes concerning London, and to-night by the letter from Mr. Paine, of Boston, and as we know of what has been accomplished in Buffalo and other large cities, what this Society aims to accomplish is susceptible of practical execution. To bring this about needs, primarily, the co-operation of those who are interested in the general work of charity.

This Philadelphia Society does not come forward like Moses' rod to smite other organizations and then swallow them. It comes to help, not to hinder or supplant. It does not say, "We wish to administer all the charity of Philadelphia," but it does say, "We desire charity to be administered here systematically, according to an intelligent, discriminating knowledge of its subjects, and with a primary reference to their elevation and eventual self-support." It is not arbitrarily and mechanically claimed that if an extreme case of sickness, impending death, or starvation is presented, the giving of temporal relief shall be withheld until the Superintendent shall make a careful examination, and the matter shall be reported to a Committee to be acted upon. It does, however, aim to bring about a system whereby, as a general rule and method, there shall be careful investigation before assistance is rendered, and all charitable organizations shall work together to accomplish the grand ideas which I have referred to as essential principles of true charity.

One of the highest purposes of this Society (although it is not new, or confined to its peculiar work) is, that it seeks to give moral tone through the channel of women's hearts and hands, to those who are depressed in fortune. Its best work is largely done by those who take the deepest and tenderest of human sympathies into the homes of the poor. The seven hundred women who have labored during the past year in connection with the different Ward Associations here, have carried vastly more help and permanent benefit into those homes than have come from the physical relief afforded. The "milk of human kindness" has been, in many cases, far more strengthening than the bread and the meat. Lost confidence in self has been restored; almost forgotten ambitions have been aroused, and hope has been quickened for renewed struggle.

It is to this kind of effort that this Society invites the citizens of Philadelphia and all kindred organizations, for which, as I have already said, it has no jealousy or ill will. On the contrary, it desires their cordial co-operation, and would gladly remit all the active work of distribution and visitation to their charge, as soon as it becomes evident that the whole territory of the city can be covered by their efforts, prosecuted in conformity with the general principles to which I have hastily referred.

But I must draw my remarks to a close. I have not attempted to say what I had marked out for myself in preparation for this evening's duty. The hour is so late, and I so far respect the rights of the gentleman who is to follow me, that I have rather chosen to give expression to these desultory utterances.

I only desire to add what to me is a matter of great importance. I believe that, for the proper realization of the brotherhood of the human family, every family enjoying comfort and prosperity ought to have some voluntary and cordial relation of helpfulness towards some other family, whose circumstances are not so cheerful. When society is tied together with such bonds of sympathy and good feeling, communism and anarchy will be spectres of the past, and will be known only as facts of history.

The ideas underlying this organization, if carried to their full development, would accomplish just this result, and bring to every household in our city the elevating, refining and stimulating influence which would come from a broader knowledge of human nature, a deeper insight into its varied experiences, and an earnest effort to alleviate its miseries and burdens.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TRAINING-SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

Later accounts received through our correspondent in the Connecticut Training-school for Nurses give a few items in addition to those published in the last *Register*:

The number of graduates of the Training-school of the Women's Hospital, Philadelphia, is 46. They have 2 or 3 scholarships of \$60, and invested funds of about \$4,000.

The Training-school connected with the New-England Hospital for Women and Children, Boston, has 41 graduates.

We regret that a typographical error was made in the name of Dr. Joseph Warrington, of the Nurse-Society of Philadelphia. To him more than to any one else belongs the credit of having begun the education of nurses in this country as early as 1839.

VALUE OF CO-OPERATION TO OTHER SOCIETIES.

Over against the carping criticism of a small portion of the press, and of some of the Societies for whose benefit this "Organized Charity" was called into being, we are satisfied to place such occasional testimony as the following, to the value of our work to one of the wisest Charities in our midst, and from a gentleman whose name will carry weight in all quarters for deliberate and wise judgment. The suggestion concerning territory is also worthy the consideration of the managers of all relief Societies. A mutual arrangement of geographical boundaries would go very far to prevent overlapping and duplication, and to that extent embarrass imposture and prevent the misuse of charitable funds:

PHILADELPHIA, 12mo. 22, 1880.

My Dear Friend—I have been doing a little, lately, as one of the Managers of the 6th Ward Association of the Charity Organization Society, and have thus been able to see a little of the inner working of the concern.

It is certainly a most important movement, and no effort should be spared that would contribute to its complete and final success.

As a Manager of the Grandom Coal-fund, I find the co-operation with the Charity Organization a most valuable aid. Part of my Grandom District lies in the 6th Ward, and includes some of the worst "slums" in the city, and the protection which the Organization gives me from being imposed upon by the worthless and immoral, is invaluable. The Grandom Coal-fund having for its object the furnishing of half-price coal to the "most prudent of the Poor, but not the intemperate", care is required not to pervert the trust.

We have however quite an awkward arrangement of Grandom Districts, which I should be glad to see improved if my colleagues were willing. My district is: All north of Market street, between Second and Fourth streets. This is a narrow strip running through several Wards and Poor Districts, and it would simplify matters very much for me if the boundaries of my Grandom District conformed to the boundaries of the Poor Districts or of the Organization Societies, or both.

Signed,
To PHILIP C. GARRETT.

JAMES WHITALL.

PENAL AND REFORMATORY MEASURES.

A member of the New York State Board of Charities, whose name will be recognized as that of an authority upon reformatory questions, and as the author of the valuable review of the "Public Charities of New York City", issued by the Board during the past year, writes as below regarding the Report of our Committee on Penal and Reformatory Institutions, which was published in our December number. We welcome to our columns such criticisms as these, in the assurance that out of agitation and intel-

ligent comparison of views, will, ultimately, be formulated definite principles and laws of charitable and correctional science, which will subserve the safety of the community and the rescue of the fallen.

THE STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES,
NEW YORK, JANUARY 5, 1881.

MR. C. D. KELLOGG, General Secretary:

Dear Sir—

In reference to the suggestions contained in the Report of the Committee on Penal and Reformatory Institutions, may I say that, in my opinion, the 11th recommendation, of a Commission to inquire into the whole subject, is the most valuable; since I believe that a thorough inquiry would show conclusively that what is needed to diminish crime is not so much the shutting up in prison of large numbers of criminals, but the training of possible criminals in such a way that they shall find other means of gaining a livelihood, and *the making of crime unprofitable*.

The experience of Gloucestershire, England, which is referred to in the Committee's Report, proves that, with the right kind of work *outside of prisons*, (that is, preventive work among the young, and efficient police supervision over those who have already offended,) it is possible to diminish the number of prisons instead of adding to them as we are doing.

As Mr. Barwick Baker, of Gloucester, says: "It is a very bad use to make of a man to shut him up in prison; but bad as it is, you may do much worse by allowing him to go on without a check, hardening in crime." If he offends against the law, punish him sharply for a time; then let him out to earn his own living under such conditions and oversight that he can not go wrong without its being known. Make crime so difficult (by a good police) that it *will not pay*, and criminals will do something else.

Mr. Baker further says:—"I object to a separate prison for a *long* sentence, but I am inclined to think that from a fortnight to a month in a separate cell on a first conviction, is a good treatment, giving time for reflection and good resolutions. A short period is painful and leaves a horror of gaol which is less felt when a larger period, three months, has shown that gaol is not so bad when you are used to it. Our old watch-word is 'the maximum of deterrence with the minimum of pain.'"

I have had the privilege of corresponding, for two years, with Mr. Baker, and have become imbued with his horror of prisons, and his belief in the efficacy of police supervision outside of prisons; and you will therefore please excuse my long letter, inspired by the recommendations of your Committee, that so many prisons should be enlarged to accommodate your Philadelphia criminals!

Yours truly,

JOSEPHINE SHAW LOWELL.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

COFFEE TAVERNS.

The annual reports of the British Coffee-house Companies, for 1879, show uniform good results, and entire success in making the enterprise a paying one. The *Coffee Public House News* announces the following dividends after liberal allowances for depreciation of both property and plant:

	PER CENT.
Aberdeen Café Co., limited.....	10
Liverpool British Workman Public House Co., limited.....	10
Newbury Public Coffee-house Co.....	7½
Kilburn Coffee Tavern Co.....	5
Jersey Café Co., limited.....	10
Halifax Cocoa and Refreshment House Co., limited.....	10
Staley Bridge Coffee Tavern Co..... do	10
Broughton, do do	10
Coffee Tavern Co. (London) 11 per cent. earned.....	5*

* Annual dividend being limited to this.

Some details regarding the latter Company will serve to show the extent of their business:

Nominal capital @ \$5 P £ stg.....	\$250,000
Paid up.....	95,378.12
Gross receipts.....	153,306.65

Over 14,000 daily frequent their taverns, or upwards of 5,000,000 yearly. The week ending December 7th, the following was their weekly consumption:

78,104 large cups coffee, tea & cocoa.	2,738 lbs sugar.
3,256 lbs meat.	884 lbs butter.
3,656 basins of soup.	10,153 loaves of bread.

Lord Derby said, at the annual meeting of the last-named Company: "In

Liverpool (which, with its immense seafaring population, and that other kind of population which, unluckily, is never far off where sailors come ashore, has an unfortunate reputation in the matter of sobriety), a Coffee-house Company has been set up, which is, or very lately was, so prosperous that when, by way of giving it a lift, I wrote to apply for a few shares, I found that I was asking a favor rather than offering one: The shares were all bought up and at a high premium. In Manchester and other places I heard of similar success, and I think this, at least, may be taken for granted, that there is a real public want to be supplied, and that therefore these concerns ought not to fail except as a consequence of mismanagement. It is a common thing to hear people say, when they are arguing against the ideas of Sir W. Lawson and his friends, "I am all for temperance, but I am against temperance on compulsion." Well, I rather lean to that view of things myself, but there is another side to the question which, perhaps, we don't consider enough, that in our great town you are often to have intemperance on compulsion. There are thousands of shops where intoxicants are sold, but till lately there were few or none where a thirsty man could get a cheap cup of anything that would not make him drunk. There is a great deal of talk in connection with this subject about local option. Well, we are not only for local but for personal option, in this sense: that we want everybody to have what he has not now, a free choice as to whether he prefer stimulants or non-stimulants as part of his daily consumption. As matters are, the workingman's choice now very often is, drink beer or go dry; and knowing, as we all do, the extent to which the excess in drink prevails, we think that the least which society can undertake (I don't say that it is the most which it should undertake) is, to give a man a chance to being temperate without making himself exceptionally uncomfortable. I fully believe that, for every one man who has taken to drinking of his own free and deliberate choice, two or three, or possibly, a much larger proportion, have been driven into it by example, by the influence of social habits, or by the fact that a good fire, a warm room, company and refreshment, were not to be had without the accompaniment of liquor. It would seem as if a movement like this, interfering with nobody's freedom, meddling with no man who wishes to be left alone, ought to meet with little, if any opposition. But don't let us flatter ourselves into any such sanguine delusion. As yet it is not big enough to have made enemies; but if it succeeds as the co-operative stores have succeeded (and I don't see why it should not), it will be met with an opposition as vehement, as bitter, and in the end as futile, as that which the co-operators have had to encounter. And all the better that it should be so. We don't expect to win without a fight.

Depend upon it, a reform which makes nobody angry, which provokes no jealousy, and excites no criticism, is not generally of a very effective character. Now I am not here to make a temperance speech, but I think there are very good texts which temperance orators might dilate upon. We hear a great deal about the peasantry becoming owners of land, having gardens and fields of their own, and so forth. Do you know what an acre of good agricultural land is worth on an average? Put it at £60, and you will not be far wrong: in fact, that is a high price; and if you choose to do a little ciphering, you will see that that makes as nearly as possible three pence for every square yard. I wonder how many working-men think that whenever they order three-penny worth of beer, they are swallowing down a yard of good land. Or put it another way: suppose out of our drink bill of 140 millions we could save only 60 (and that would not imply the adoption of severely abstinent habits), and suppose that very moderate reduction continued for only ten years, how much land could the working-classes afford to buy out of that saving? It is very simple: ten million acres, or just one eighth of the whole soil of these Islands. I recommend that as a subject of profitable meditation. If I had to talk to working-men on financial matters, I should tell them, "Don't complain of being taxed; you are hardly taxed at all. It is you who tax yourselves, and if you make yourselves sheep you must expect to be shorn." You may think I have wandered from the subject, but all that I have been saying is really a part of the argument in favor of these Coffee-taverns. You are fighting the great enemy, Drink, and fighting him with the most effective weapons. May your hands be strong for the work, for you have got your work before you!"

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING-SCHOOL OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

At the recent annual meeting of the Society above named, Mrs. L. E. Caswell gave the following account of the School in question, which was briefly referred to in our December REGISTER:

She said that a little over a year ago she with others was asked to establish a Conference of the Associated Charities in Ward 6, that portion of the North End about North street. In looking over our district we found a population of about 15,000 people, swarming the streets and dance-halls, and tenement-houses, of all nationalities, ranging from the prosperous merchant to the Italian organ-grinder and rag-picker. We said to the officers of the Associated Charities, "What can we do in such a district as this to carry out your plan of work?" and we received the answer, "Remember you are to give not alms, but a friend." And then we pitifully answered back, "But these people are starving; they are suffering destitution and pauperism. How can we work here? How can we prove ourselves friends to these people if our hands are tied as to almsgiving?" And again we received gently but firmly the answer, "You must raise them out of this state of pauperism and destitution, you must raise them above the need of relief, you must set them at work." We went into our work with considerable enthusiasm, and thought we would try to get the people to work. But we very soon came face to face with a very serious difficulty: our people did not want to work, and if any of them did by chance want to work, they didn't know how. And so, through the perplexity, grew out the Ward 6 Work-room, which was opened about a year ago in a large empty building in the North End. We got a large room, and there offered these helpless, inefficient women a place to come and learn to sew. We paid them something for working, and we sold the garments they made to the poor for reasonable prices. But we soon found they were leaning too much on us, and were earning all their money from us; so we ceased to pay them money, but provided them with fuel and food and room-rent, and as soon as a woman could earn more than that we obtained employment for her elsewhere, discharged her, and took another in her place. But some women could not learn to sew, and so we opened a laundry, and invited all who could not earn their living by the needle to come and learn to do laundry-work. As soon as they learned we assisted them in getting work and gave them the privilege of coming to the laundry and washing the clothing of their customers, obliging them to put into the laundry-box ten cents on every dollar that they earned. Last month, when I went to pay the bills of the laundry, I found I could pay all the bills for soap and starch and blueing, and a part of the coal, with the ten-cent pieces these poor women had put into the laundry money-box. (Applause.) Any woman, for five cents an hour, may come and do her own washing there, if she is earning enough outside to pay the five cents. Any shop-girl, or any woman who is at work by day, can come there during the evening, and do her washing for ten cents. Any lady can come there and for twelve cents and a half an hour, under the direction of our matron, can learn to wash and starch and iron properly.

Our visitors, in going about among the families, soon made another discovery, that those mothers and daughters were very helpless in caring for their families. So we started up in this wonderful building an industrial room, where these mothers and daughters are taught to make and mend their husbands' and children's and their own garments. Then we came to another difficulty; these mothers and daughters did not know how to cook proper food for their families, and so a cooking-school was established under the kind auspices of the Boston Cooking-school committee. There are classes in the forenoon and afternoon and evening, under the kind care of Mrs. Parloa, where 200 women and girls have learned to cook. A man met me the other day and said, "My girl," and she is only twelve years old, "can make as good a beef-stew with dumplings as Mrs. Parloa can." And another man was so pleased with some fish-balls that Mary, his wife, had made for him, that he said if she could cook like that they would live like kings. (Applause.) After a time the boys began to throng the steps of our wonderful building. They said: "You are doing everything for the girls and nothing for the boys," and by their very importunity they forced us to do something with them. And so we opened a boys' workshop, where boys of twelve years old and upward are learning, under the guidance of a skilled carpenter, the use of tools. Kind friends have sent in some work for them to do, for which they are paid. Every department in this building has a money-box, and everybody has to pay something for the privilege of coming there and learning. The boys' money-box was opened by me the other day, and I was surprised and delighted to count out \$43.78 that these little fellows had earned by the use of their tools. They then passed a vote, very gravely, that they would give half of it to the institution and keep the rest themselves. The pay-day was a very pleasant day to me because they were so proud that they had earned some money—these little fellows from the streets.

At last the mothers who had little ones came to us and said: "Can't you do anything for us? We would go to work by the day if there was any place for our children." We applied to a dear lady, well known in

Boston for her sweet charities to children, and she came to our relief and opened a day-nursery and a kindergarten school, and now ninety little ones, from eighteen months old to five years, are there daily, playing and working and enjoying themselves, having their little baby naps and their lunches and their dinners, sweet and clean and happy all day long; and the mothers come at night and take these wholesome little creatures to their homes, and I think the influence is very good on the mothers.

So, you see, our work has grown. This industrial building is only a year old, and we expect great things from it in the future. It has grown beyond our highest anticipations. God's work always grows. We only now, just at present, have ambition for two things: we want, in this building, to organize a class of girls who can be thoroughly trained to go into your families and assist you in your household work, and we want a circulating library and reading-room which would purify the atmosphere of the North End and give it all a higher moral tone. And, now, we all beg of you to establish these industrial educational institutions, so that no one can say "No one will hire us, for we don't know how to work."

NOTES.

TRUE INDEPENDENCE.

Habem Tai Nameh was an Arabian nobleman, who flourished some time before the Mohammedan era. He was reputed the most generous and liberal man in all the East. One day he slew one hundred camels, and made a feast to which all the Arabian lords, and all the peasantry in the district were invited.

About the time of the feast, he took a walk towards a neighboring wood, to see if he could find any person whom he might invite to partake of the entertainment which he had there provided. Walking along the skirt of the wood, he espied an old man coming out of it laden with a burden of faggots. He accosted him, and asked if he had not heard of the entertainment made that day by Habem Tai? The old man answered in the affirmative. He asked him why he did not attend, and partake with the rest? The old man answered: "He that is able to gain his bread, even by collecting faggots in the wood, should not be beholden even to Habem Tai."—*Adam Clarke.*

Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, of New York, who has given away \$600,000 for benevolent purposes during the last sixteen years, now says that she believes she has done more harm than good. She says that the poor are of two kinds—"God's poor and the devil's poor"—and that she has been victimized by the latter class until she is sick of it.

God wants not money alone. The silver and the gold are His; but He wants your heart, your feelings, your time, your anxiety. He curseth these mere money-charities, making them engender poverty in far greater abundance than they annihilate it, and scourging them with the means of those who grudgingly bestow. Their mere mammon worketh mammon's work; divine charity worketh God's work. A Christian man may as well give over his faith into the hands of a public body, and believe what they appoint to be believed, as cast his charity over to a public body (yea, or even to a private individual) and think that he thereby satisfieth God. Our right hand is not to know what our left hand doeth. It is with the heart and soul and mind and strength that He is to be worshipped and served.—*Edward Irving.*

PAUPER CHILDREN.

The following proposed law, based upon consultations of members of the State Board of Public Charities, prominent Poor Directors, and members of our own Society, has been framed to check the fearful evil of rearing children among influences certain to entail temporal and spiritual ruin; and its passage will be urged upon our present Legislature. We shall be glad to be advised of any desirable modifications to it.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.,* That it shall not be lawful for the overseers, or guardians, or directors of the poor, or other persons having charge of the poor, in the several counties, cities, boroughs, and townships of this Commonwealth to receive into, or retain in, any almshouse or poor-house, any child between two and sixteen years of age, unless such child should be an unteachable idiot, an epileptic, or a paralytic, or otherwise so disabled or deformed as to render it unfit for family care.

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of said overseers, or other persons having charge of the poor, to place all pauper children who are in their charge, and who are over two years of age, (with the exceptions named in the first section of this act,) in some respectable family in the State, or in some suitable institution or home for children; and the said officers shall visit such children in person or by agent, not less than once in three months, and make all needful inquiries as to their treatment and welfare.

SECTION 3. In case said overseers or other persons having charge of the poor shall themselves establish and maintain an institution or home for children, such institution

or home shall be remote from any almshouse or poor-house, and entirely disconnected from the same.

SECTION 4. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished for every violation of the same by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

SECTION 5. This act shall go into effect on the 1st day of _____, 1881, and all acts of Assembly or parts of acts inconsistent therewith are hereby repealed from that date.

CASES.

The advantages of Loans as a means of relief is well illustrated by the two following cases:

Case No. 62, 5th Ward.—A woman who, from inherent lack of management and economy, was always in arrears, recently applied for help because so far behind in her rent that the landlord was about to sell her out. Needing an incentive to thrift, and otherwise being of good character, a friend in the same station in life was found to stand as her security. A loan was made sufficient to pay her back rent. Under our plan of enforced weekly repayments, this has been repaid in full, and she says that she finds that by a little more prudence and management than she formerly exercised, she can now not only pay her rent regularly, but spare something to lay aside for future needs as well.

Case No. 63, 5th Ward.—A man who had been accustomed to spend his wages as fast as earned, although they were more than sufficient for his regular needs, found himself under the necessity of asking for a loan for the burial of his daughter; as without such assistance he could not make arrangements with the undertaker for the funeral. The loan was made, under the usual security, and he has since been promptly repaying it in regular installments; and now informs the Committee that he has discovered that he can not only save enough to repay this 50 cts. per week on the loan but can also deposit \$1.00 weekly in the Fuel-saving Fund.

Such instances speak volumes in favor of a wiser Charity than gratuitous gifts even of the very things most needed in a temporary emergency. One puts new heart and courage into the depressed, and the other demoralizes.

It would help the general work of charitable relief in this city if it could be plainly set forth why co-operation and interchange among benevolent Societies is opposed here; for then the objections might be met and answered, or more likely they would vanish into thin air by simply being uttered, as all such objections have really no sensible ground to stand on.

Case No. 64 shows how easily deceptive appearances may be maintained which would deceive any one who did not follow up cases continuously for months as Organized Charity does, and as Societies that expect one or two paid agents to make 10,000 to 15,000 visits a year can not do. A poorly clad elderly woman applied at one of our southern Ward offices with a piteous story of destitution and suffering, and desired to be visited and have her statements verified. The Visitor found a room almost bare of furniture, a cold stove, an apology for a bed, a bare cupboard, and all the other indications of extremest want; and no evidence of intemperance or vice appeared. She lived alone, with no relatives, no church, and no society on whom she had any claim. Of course the proof seemed ample, and she must be cared for adequately at once, and so she was. But the continuous oversight, and consultations with landlord, police, grocery, neighbors, employers, etc., soon disclosed the fact that in another story she had a suite of rooms, furnished with every comfort and an abundant larder; and all was supplied by a son, who shared the apartments with her, and was in the employ of one of the railroad companies on wages of \$70 a month. She thought she could increase her pin-money by securing her share of the profuse charity which the public are so ready to misapply.

We want a CORRESPONDENT and a SOLICITOR in every city where there are friends of Organized or Associated Charity.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. By CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. By CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....	3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. By S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25	.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.60	.66

THE following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 5. }
WHOLE NO. 17. }

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1881.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen. Sec., Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Wm. S. Stokley (*ex-officio*)

WARD.	VICE-PRESIDENTS.	WARD.
3. A. C. Deakne, M.D.,	11. J. Christian Miller,	22. Jabez Gates,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,	12. W. Fred. Snyder,	23. Samuel Bolton,
5. Wm. S. Price,	13. Jas. V. Wa son,	27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
6. Thomas M. Seeds,	14. Henry M. Laing,	28. Rev. C. H. Kimball,
7. R. C. McMurrin,	15. Geo. Burnham,	29. Geo. W. Simons,
8. Alexander Brown,	16. Isaac A. Sheppard,	30. A. A. Catanach,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,	19. A. H. Overholt,	31. Robert Mair.
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,	20. Wm. Y. Colladay,	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)	A. C. Deakne, M.D.,	Josiah R. Sypher,
Joshua L. Baile (V. Pres.)	Nelson F. Evans,	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Rev. Chas. G. Ames,	Philip C. Garrett,	Geo. N. Torrence,
John H. Atwood,	Thos. C. Hand, Jr.,	Albert B. Williams,
Rudolph Blankenburg,	Thos. S. Harrison,	Robt. N. Willson,
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,	Samuel Huston,	
H. T. Child, M.D.,		

MEETINGS UNTIL MARCH 15TH.

Monday,	February 28,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Tuesday,	March 1,	3 P. M., Women's General Conference.†
Monday,	March 7,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Friday,	March 11,	5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	March 14,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT of the Society is now ready for delivery, and those who have not received it can procure copies by application to the Central Office.

THINK IT OVER. — The low grog shops draw their main support from those whom sentimental and loosely-administered "Charity" discourages, by its easy gifts, from all effort to labor, and all need of self-denial.

ENCOURAGEMENT.—For the encouragement of those of our workers who are despondent over the ignorant, and sometimes unfair, criticisms upon "Organized Charity," we would remind them of the suggestive remark of President Lincoln under similar obloquy: "Whenever I go into an orchard, and see a tree that has been well clubbed, I know that tree bears good fruit."

OUR SIXTEENTH WARD ASSOCIATION give a vocal and literary entertainment on Tuesday evening, 22d inst., at St. John's M. E. Church, 3d below George, in aid of their treasury. This Association has had a hard struggle during the winter against many adverse circumstances, and we trust our friends in other wards will cheer them on this occasion by their presence. Tickets, 25 cents each, may be had at the Central Office, or at the door on the evening named.

AT THE NEXT ASSEMBLY (Monday evening, March 7th) the Committee on "The Care and Education of Children" will make a report, touching especially upon the matters of Compulsory and of Industrial Education, and these subjects will also be considered in the discussion which will follow the report. As these questions are of the very first importance in efforts to stop the sources of poverty and pauperism, it is hoped that every member of the Society will be present, even though the attendance involve some inconvenience.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.—Hon. George L. Harrison has deposited with us a collection of specimens of the work done by the pupils of some of the apprentice schools of Paris. These show the progress and skill of the pupils after one, two and three years' instruction in wood and metal working, and their examination will be of great interest to all interested in the introduction of Industrial Education as a check to pauperism. The perfection of finish of many of the specimens is really marvellous, and well illustrates the capabilities of lads of 15 to 19 years of age under judicious and competent instruction. All friends of industrial and technical education are invited to call at the Central Office of this Society, and examine the specimens.

SILENCE GIVES CONSENT, and by that rule we have judged, in the absence of any adverse criticisms, that our readers were satisfied with our efforts to make the MONTHLY REGISTER attractive and profitable. Words of encouragement are, however, refreshing and helpful.

A Boston friend, whose literary name and fame are national, writes: "I am filled with wonder at the excellence of your MONTHLY REGISTER, and only wish I had time to write you about it, and say how much it helps me."

Another literary friend from a nearer city: "Your very valuable and interesting paper is a welcome guest. I hope to profit much by its wise and admirable teachings."

Still another: "THE REGISTER I consider a gospel messenger."

Indianapolis and New York City send for 250 copies each for special distribution to stimulate the intelligent study of Charity; and these are cheering endorsements also.

GENERAL CHARITABLE RELIEF.

The following table exhibits the work of the prominent General Relief Societies of the city. While it shows an ample provision for the temporary pressing needs of the poor, it is but a small indication of the aggregate of charitable relief expended when the benefactions bestowed through 12 Soup houses, 15 Industrial Relief Societies, 550 Churches, and probably many thousands of private families are computed. We gather from the last annual reports of the societies in question the following particulars:—

SOCIETIES.	Visits made.	No. of visitors	Families cared for.	Persons cared for.	Employment found for.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
Bedford Street Mission	800	2	198	970	—	\$2,499 22	2,967 52
Female Hebrew Benevolent Society	100	4	—	170	—	970 85	1,085 50
Home Missionary Society	6,220	3	—	8,648	163	*10,295 02	9,820 94
Society for Employment and Instruction of the Poor	—	—	—	—	102	6,877 28	6,851 44
Prot. Epis. City Mission	12,929	8	296	—	—	+15,106 70	13,922 25
Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul	11,589	—	—	8,656	24	+15,154 00	15,312 00
Union Benevolent Association	7,722	82	4,398	—	—	*13,401 14	13,256 49
United Hebrew Charities	1,000	60	—	1,154	—	+16,656 82	12,530 69
Ward Associations of the Society for Organizing Charity..	39,692	786	7,610	11,987	1 006	+25,345 01	26,662 22
						106,306 01	102,400 05

* Including value of supplies donated in kind.

† Excluding value of supplies donated in kind.

‡ Single persons in addition to families.

UNCHARITABLE CHARITY.

What is there in charitable work which prevents the managers of all the benevolent associations in any city from agreeing to unite and co-operate in carrying out a system of research, of comparison of experiences, of mutual endeavor to learn and institute the best methods for the best good of the poor? Why in all this work is there so much of rivalry, of jealousy, of suspicion, where all should be the expression of true charity—of love? Is the "Charity" which is the capital of each, entirely exhausted in its own narrow circle, and naught but selfishness left for all others pursuing the same aims? Is there not fair cause to fear that after all many of them are not based on pure love to our neighbor; that, having made a creditable name and position for themselves, the promoters forget their real duty to the great body of the poor and the suffering?

Here is food for serious thought and a deep lesson for all who will ponder it. If all the true-hearted, unselfish workers would lay aside their rivalries, and seek to bring to a common centre their experiences and wisdom, their methods, their discoveries, how fast all would receive a higher education in the truest principles of beneficence, how soon a science of Charity might be formulated and crystallized that would strengthen this and every future generation of workers, and gradually uplift every future generation of the depressed. Let us avoid that miscalled charity which is uncharitable and limited selfishness.

DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

Indiana is now moving in the matter of her pauper children, and a bill is before her Legislature, of which the following are the main features. It will be seen that the "family plan" is the basis of it.

Each county within one year shall select a suitable matron to whose care all pauper children shall be committed, at a place entirely separated from the almshouse. She shall provide them with proper food and clothing, good home training, and at least three months' education at the common school in each year. While out of school they shall be engaged in some active labor suited to make them self-supporting in the future.

The charge for clothing and feeding each child is limited to thirty cents per day, but the county may provide the house, garden and a good cow. The county also furnishes school books, medical attendance and burial expenses. No matron shall have the care of over twenty children, but they may be divided into still smaller families at the discretion of the County Commissioners.

The matron shall farther seek for homes in private families in the same county, for the children in her charge. These families must be of good moral character, and agree to retain the children until they become of legal age. She shall also visit the children frequently, and see that they are properly treated and provided for.

A committee of citizens, of whom two shall be women "who have had experience in the raising of children," shall also be appointed by the

Commissioners to visit and examine the condition of every such home, and the administration of each matron.

Indiana has now near seven hundred children in her almshouses, and the citizens are beginning to realize that it is both cheaper and more humane to educate them for honest self-supporting citizens, than to bring them up as paupers or criminals—the sure result of almshouse training.

The following paper of the astute Rev. Dr. Dobbs gathers up so forcibly the arguments against Organized Charity, that we deem it only justice to those who desire to study both sides of the case, to quote it entire:

ORGANIZED CHARITY EXPOSED.

BY THE REVEREND LEVI PHILETUS DOBBS, DOCTOR OF DIVINITY.

I have been requested to give my view as to the new system of Charity which is springing up in some of our cities and towns, and which goes under the name of Organized Charity.

On a careful and critical view I do not hesitate to utter my unqualified disapproval of the whole thing, on several distinct grounds.

In the first place, the very fact that it is *new* ought to be its adequate condemnation. We have stamped it with merited reprobation when we have said, "It is an innovation."

I need not remind you that in the elder and better days (here I pause to drop a tear over our degenerate times) charity was *charity*. If people were poor, that was enough; and if they *said* they were poor, that was enough; nobody doubted their word. When people died they left money to be distributed in bread at convents and churches, to all beggars.

Now, the very fact that this state of things existed in the olden time, would be enough of itself to recommend it. But see also the results. The more the poor were fed, so many more poor there were to be fed; so much the more chance there was for charity. And the poor were kept in their place. They had no "aspirations" to make themselves and other people uncomfortable. They knew their place and they kept it.

But, with these novel ideas, all is changed. Why, all confidence in human nature is destroyed. If a man says he is poor, people do not believe him; and they ask him no end of questions; they want to know why he does not work; and what he did with his wages last summer; and all that. And they tell him that he ought not to be contented to be a beggar. Thus they fly right in the very face and eyes of scripture; for doesn't the Bible say, "Be content with such things as ye have?" And if people are going to give up the Bible, they had better be infidels.

Well; this is not all. These new ideas want to do away with poverty and the poor, so that there will be no more need of charity; no beggars; nobody to give our old clothes to, and our cold pieces! A strange sort of charity that wants to put an end to itself! It would be a strange tailor that would be getting up a scheme for people to do without clothes, wouldn't it? But just as well as for a charity society that wants to fix things so that there will be no need of charity. Pray, what is going to become of the Christian graces, if charity is wiped out? And what are people going to get to heaven on, I should like to know?

And then these new ideas of charity will put an end to a great many branches of industry that are now flourishing. Many children who are now usefully employed in going from door to door for refuse meat and such, will be left unemployed. Those persons who now gain a comfortable maintenance by importing Italian children to beg and fiddle, will be bereft of a livelihood. The business of the second-hand shops, which buy the clothes that are begged from door to door, will be paralyzed.

But it is the *moral* argument that has the most force to my mind. Think of the awful stimulus that is given to falsehood. In the olden times, the beggar came to your door; you asked him no questions; and so he told you no lies; or, at least, he did not lavish his lies. But now the beggar tells his story, (lie 1); you send him to the office; he perhaps goes there and repeats his lie, (2) or, perhaps, he comes back to you and tells you that he went there, and they would do nothing for him, (3). Thus he has to lie beyond measure; and into the bargain your suspicious questioning of him has the effect to shatter that confidence that ought to exist between man and man. And it is very likely that the beggar may feel hardly toward you, and may withhold from you those profuse thanks, those fervent prayers to heaven in your behalf, that would otherwise have been showered upon you.

Nor can I overlook the fact that the new ideas about charity are a dreadful provocative to profanity. When the tramp who thought (not unnaturally) that he was approaching the house of a Christian, and who confidently hoped for a good square meal, with a cup of hot coffee, and a little change in his pocket, when he is put off with a piece of paste-board that directs him to the Ward Office, is it any wonder that he

stands off and swears? Who wouldn't? And who is responsible for those oaths? Who, indeed, but the new ideas of charity?

Why; just look at it! a man comes along and wants bread and meat and beer and money and a new suit of clothes; and you offer (according to these new ideas) what? Work! Just what he didn't want.

But say that he is willing to labor. He says, "Yes; I am ready to engage in any suitable employment that is honorable, and that is adapted to my state of health. I am willing (say) to cut off Coupons. Or I am prepared to go around starring, on the basis of Sarah Bernhardt, at the rate of \$248,000 for sixty nights. Anything that is reasonable, I will do." And you have the effrontery to propose that he should shovel snow, or saw wood, or clean out a cellar, or some such menial or degrading employment! And you propose not to pay him anything till the work is done! Surely such treatment might well move a saint to profanity.

If, then, these ideas are *new* and *radical*, if they fly in the face of all that is *old* and *established*, if they threaten to do away with all demand for themselves, and to remove all opportunity for the exercise of charity, if they shatter that confidence between man and man which is one of the most beautiful instincts of our nature, if they give rise to hard feeling, and to lying and to profanity, do I need to say a word more? I trust not.—*National Baptist*

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

JANUARY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

Official notice was received from the Guardians of the Poor to the effect that they deem it inexpedient to elect Visitors, as recommended by the Society for Organizing Charity, but advise that the Superintendents report any eligible and deserving case to the Guardian of the District in which the applicant resides.

Rev. Charles G. Ames was elected a member of the Board, *vice* William B. Hackenburg, Esq., resigned; also William Y. Colladay, Esq., *vice* William V. Keating, M.D., whose term had ceased through his retirement from the Ward directorship.

From the Committee on Ward Associations, an informal report was made of an interesting interview with the ladies of the 26th Ward Ladies' Independent Charitable Relief Association in which the earnest work of the latter was made apparent, and a better understanding of mutual relations was reached. These ladies are doing a self-denying and important work in that Ward.

A letter from Rev. Dr. J. Andrews Harris to the Chairman, on the subject of suppressing the low Variety Theatres was considered. It was desired that this Society should take the initiative in calling a general public meeting to organize a movement upon the corrupting influences which "must of necessity vastly increase that very pauperism which it is the object of the society to remedy," and thus to attempt to purify "the source as well as try to disinfect the outflow." In view of the moneyed, the political, and the class interests opposed, the magnitude of the proposed undertaking seemed appalling, and to require the undivided energies of any body of citizens that would grapple with it. Although kindred to the work of this Society, it was thought that such a crusade would be more properly carried on by the Society for the Suppression of Vice and Crime, measures to revive which were already initiated. To this was added the consideration that the work already entered upon by this Society was as wide as it was prudent to undertake, and taxed its means and facilities to the utmost.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR JANUARY.

The stated Conference of the Women Visitors was held at the usual Hall January 10, at 10 a. m., Mrs. Gillingham presiding, Miss J. A. Myers acting as Secretary. The reports from the several Wards were read and accepted.

The subject was raised of the disappointment of a Visitor who failed to secure prompt and liberal relief from her own Ward Association in two cases which no Committee had considered, which no one knew but herself, and for which no effort had been made to secure from other sources the needed relief. The Visitor was so much discouraged, that she had abandoned the work, although her Ward treasury was in such a low condition that the officers were much embarrassed in providing for the most immediate pressing needs, and no serious failure had occurred in securing from other co-operating charities all needed relief.

The following letter to the despondent Visitor was written by Mrs. S. I. Lesley, and its publication may be instructive to others similarly tried:

"I sympathise with your trouble in not getting what you asked for: Your word would have been sufficient to ensure your poor friends imme-

diate relief in any well-organized Ward. Your Ward is *not well organized*, nor can it be at present. There are difficulties to be met with in some Wards which it will take time and patience to overcome. Some Wards are lacking in means, or the right persons have not yet come to the front. And the well-organized Wards are usually so crowded with work that they cannot come to the aid of the poorer Wards as fast as they could wish.

"It seems to me, my friend, your mistake lies in condemning a whole movement in a great city covering a vast area, because in your one Ward you were not treated as you should have been. It would be like condemning the Sermon on the Mount, because after nearly two thousand years it does not yet influence all the actions of men. You say you are not surprised that the Society lacks Visitors while such things happen. But they must continue to happen here and there for a long time unless you and others like you, deeply imbued with the wrong done, labor to bring up your Ward to the true principles of the Society. But in the meantime let me suggest to you to take such cases to any of the giving Societies, and get the relief needed. Co-operation with existing Charities is one of our main principles. You do that for your client: you are her medium; it is your positive duty as her Visitor, to take that trouble for her, of finding out where help can be obtained; whether from the Ward or from existing Charities, or from the Church, or private individuals. The same day that you felt yourself so ill-treated by the Ward, another Visitor in your Ward got the coal and food she needed for a still more unfortunate case, by applying personally to a Visitor in another Ward. She knew her own Ward was not in good working order, and that she was equally carrying out the highest principles of the Association. In Boston no relief is *ever* given at any Ward office. The offices *exist* merely to put the personal care, investigation, in fact all the trouble of *taking charge* of a poor family in the best possible way, into the hands of careful, experienced, devoted Visitors. And the idea is, that if material relief is needed, they shall *always* get it, either from the existing Societies, or from the private individuals whose acquaintance it is one of the great benefits of so large an Association to make possible. You say you have talked with members of other Societies, 'and none of them look with favor upon ours.' That is natural; they have not yet studied our motives or our aims. But as we grow in good work, and as our Visitors fully take in its spirit, all distrust of us must pass away. In referring to my allusion to another Ward where our principles are being admirably carried out, you say: 'If all Wards were in as good condition it would be well for the poor, but you well know there are comparatively few in such condition.' To this I can only answer, 'Rome was not built in a day.' To me it is a source of infinite hope and gratitude that in a city of 31 Wards, in less than 3 years so many are organized at all, and that at least six of them are doing a high and noble order of work. And in nearly all the other Wards there are districts that are carrying out the very best ideas of the Society. 'The mills of God grind slowly.'

"I close my letter with only one more reference to yours: You say you are 'pleased with Octavia Hill's letter, but what an undertaking; to attempt to *mould the character* of any person or persons: the responsibility is one I would not dare to undertake.'

"It is to me a heavier responsibility to reject the effort to mould the character of our poor friends. Some of them indeed do not need help in that direction, and will do a great deal to mould ours, and to strengthen our faith and contentment. But where the building up or re-instating of character is the one thing of most importance to us as Visitors, it should comfort us and make the burden less to know we do not have to take it alone. In this beneficent world, which our Father has provided as our working home, are 'armies of ministers' waiting to aid us. These noble institutions throughout the city, administered by wise and faithful people, these very giving Societies, to which you say you prefer to belong—the kind hearts and wise heads everywhere, all step forward to throw in their contributions to any Visitor who finds a soul to save, or a character to build up. Who can bear the fearful responsibility of letting character go, rather than call all the powers in heaven and on earth to its rescue? We may not succeed, but we *must* try.

"And now, my friend, into whatever Society you throw your influence and aid, try to go into it with a patient and kind understanding of the one you are leaving, that we may all be workers together to lessen human misery."

An inquiry as to the use of the term "undeserving" led to the fact that it was employed by some Visitors to describe both those who are not in real want, and those really unworthy and dismissed from the relief lists. It was thought that the phrase was the cause of misapprehension concerning our attitude towards those families who needed the

friendly oversight of the Visitors and their patient efforts to discover and root out the existing causes of their degraded condition.

Mrs. Gillingham urged that the care of such a family was a life-work, and they should never be given up.

Miss Strawbridge of 22d Ward said, that many cases were those of skilled beggars; but others had brought themselves to a low state through drink or thriftlessness. These should be aided in extremity, but sparingly, barely enough to tide them over. They should be given to understand that they must do better in the future. They will improve, but of course it will take time. Our work really lies in these cases.

Mrs. Wharton of 7th Ward, thought many families come from Ireland with very limited means, get discouraged in a new country, and so become reduced. Often, if given a lift and encouraged with advice and sympathy, they will in a short time be self-supporting and useful.

Miss Pendleton of 8th Ward, cited two or three difficult cases of families about whom she was discouraged, and desired the judgment of the Visitors. Helpful suggestions were given her by the Visitors present, encouraging her to hold on to them even to "seventy times seven."

It was resolved, [Article VII of the By-laws being suspended,]

"That the day of the meeting of Conference be changed temporarily from the second Monday of each month, at 10 a. m., to the first Tuesday, at 3 p. m."

Mrs. Lesley read a summary of the two years work of the Conference, being a resume of subjects of discussion and papers bearing on the work of the Organization.

It was resolved that two names be added to the Committee on Reports and Publications, the choice to be left until the next meeting.

The Conference then adjourned.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR FEBRUARY.

The Visitors stated Conference for this month was held on the 1st inst. at 3 p. m., and the change in the time of meeting, from the second Monday to the first Tuesday, enables us to report it in the REGISTER for the current month. Mrs. Gillingham presided, and Mrs. M. T. Gawthrop acted as Secretary. Reports from several Ward Corps were read. Among other items the following were reported: 11 children placed in private homes, 12 put into schools, 3 placed with Societies; 1 babe of 3 weeks received in 6th Ward-house and maintained; 48 women aided by employment; 2 women and 3 men put in permanent situations; 2 placed in "hospitals"; 3 in alms-house; 1 in Home for Aged; 1 sick woman removed to charge of friends; 7 sick persons provided with medical attendance and sick-diet from co-operating agencies.

The severe storm prevented the attendance of many, so that but about one half the Wards were represented, and these figures show but a small fraction of the total of such work done.

The 6th Ward Superintendent (Miss Hancock) reported that they had succeeded in securing all needed groceries and coal during January from other sources, thus literally exemplifying "Charity Organization", and allowing them the better to carry on the work of their Ward-house, where 40 to 50 were fed, and about 20 lodged daily, at but trifling cost, as the labor required of every able person nearly paid the expense. They still paid special attention to the children, a kindergarten day-nursery and temporary home being constantly maintained under their own roof. Work had been found for all applying for it, and the disabled had been permanently provided for.

In reply to enquiry, how the relief had been so successfully secured from co-operating Charities, she stated that her custom was to investigate fully the condition, causes, habits, resources, etc., of the applicant (as provided by Society's rules) and write out the result in full, and send the applicant with it to the agency, whose plain duty it was to provide for it, and the result was a prompt acquiescence. It can nearly always be done, if done in the right way. A large part of her co-operation came from the Home Missionary and Union Benevolent Societies.

Mrs. Wharton of 7th Ward, reported similar success with the Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, of St. Patrick's church, and thought that Visitors were too much in the habit of depending on their own Ward Associations to provide the relief, instead of acting on the principles of the Society and utilizing all the other sources possible.

The 9th Ward reported a remarkable reduction in applications, but 2 having been made during the previous week from resident cases.

The Chair reported that the present chief work in the 20th Ward was with the sick cases; many distressing instances existing, and 3 heads of families having died during the month, and asked for suggestions.

Miss Hancock considered there could be no question that it was better for the poor to be sent to the hospitals, where the chances for recovery were far greater, than to be left in wretched homes with insufficient care and attendance. If not to the hospitals, to the alms-house.

Mrs. Gillingham said, that it required so much personal and political influence, and consumed so much time to gain admittance to the alms-house, that she was often obliged to give up in despair, although she considered that the Association ought to have the power to send any proper case to the alms-house.

Miss Hancock said, the only way was to stick to it, and never give up until successful.

At the request of the President, Mr. Kellogg, the General Secretary, explained the present relations of the Guardians of the Poor with the Society, and advised an intelligent preparation of cases for application for admission to the alms-house, and then personal presentation and effort by Visitors and Directors as the surest and wisest course.

Inquiry being made how to secure the aid of the police in arresting vagrant children, as given in the 20th Ward report, it was stated that the Mayor, the chief, and the lieutenants of police, cordially co-operate, inasmuch that street-begging had almost entirely ceased throughout that Ward, and doubtless would, wherever proper attention was given by the Associations. In the 6th Ward the officers of the Ward found it the easier way to arrest the children, take them to the Ward-house, and bring them before the magistrate the next day, when the parents are summoned, and the law can be enforced.

Mrs. F. B. Ames said, the great drawback to arrests of men, even though we obtained co-operation of Mayor and officers, was that the difficulty of securing their detention after commitment would balk every effort. A woman committed may be detained the full term, but a man will be released almost immediately, because he is a voter.

The Chair was more and more impressed with the work of the 6th Ward and the vast advantage it derived from its Ward-house. She had long felt the need of uniformity in Ward-work, and if that was the best method, the sooner the other Wards followed the plan of a Ward-house, the better for the work of the Organization.

Mrs. Lesley of 7th Ward explained that the usefulness of a Ward-house depended entirely upon how it was conducted, and that it would be a white elephant if not well managed.

The General Secretary, by request, explained the present extent of the co-operation existing with other Societies, and that many individual Wards have been highly successful in securing large co-operation, and others again have failed. Much of the failure however is due to the lack of official and authoritative application to head-quarters; the Committee on Co-operation too often leaving it to an individual application of the Superintendent or Visitor.

Mrs. Ames regretted that no greater progress had been made in preventing the duplication of relief, and looked for more efforts in that direction.

Mrs. J. C. Biddle considered that the trouble was in public sentiment and the press, which were both ignorant of the principles of Charity Organization. The wealthy people, from a false sentiment of pity, persist in giving at their doors to beggars who are known to be impostors, and by this means they help to support the low dens of iniquity which the Society is vainly endeavoring to root out.

A Visitor gave a vivid description of a den in a lower Ward, kept by a hag of iron will and most brutal character, who kept 4 or 5 old women, as complete slaves, to secure her supplies of food. These latter were ragged, repulsive creatures, broken down in mind and body from lives of vice; and they were sent out daily with baskets to solicit food at the rear doors of houses in the wealthy Wards, their services being paid for in lodging and whisky. With the food thus secured the mistress of these slaves keeps a lodging and liquor-house of the most abominable character, harboring thieves, ruffians and prostitutes, and entrapping young men and girls to ruin. And yet this loathsome sink of abominations is supported by people in the private houses of Walnut, Spruce and Chestnut streets, who contribute the food to sustain it.

Another reported a similar den, where a child was used to beg, who was purposely kept in a half-starved condition, that with her pinched and haggard features she might beg the more successfully.

To remedy this evil was a matter of education, and of showing to the people the evils of such blind and sentimental giving, even of food and clothes.

Much stress was laid by several speakers upon the need of securing the hearty and intelligent sympathy of all ministers, as those most needing the aid this Society can afford them, and having ample opportunities to instruct their people concerning true and false Charity.

The By-laws of the Conference were amended so as to permit their future alteration at any meeting, by a majority of the members present.

The Secretary was directed to ascertain the views of the several Ward Corps as to the best day and hour for holding the future stated meetings of the Conference.

Mrs. Blankenburg felt that the meeting should not close without reference to the great loss sustained by the 9th Ward Association, and the whole Society, in the death of Miss Beulah Coates, who had been one of the earliest and warmest friends of this movement. A great pillar of strength had fallen from our midst, and her loss brings a deep personal sorrow to us all.

Mrs. Lesley, Mrs. Biddle, Mrs. Wharton and Mrs. Gillingham, in a few tender, heart-felt words, reiterated the same expressions of sorrow.

Mrs. Blankenburg, Mrs. Lesley and Mrs. Biddle were appointed a Committee to place on record the feelings of the Conference on this bereavement.

Meeting then adjourned to first Tuesday of March, 3 p. m.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The Assembly held its regular monthly meeting on Monday evening February 7, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding.

The minutes of the January meeting being read and approved, the following paper in commemoration of the late Miss Beulah Coates, which had been prepared by Mrs. S. I. Lesley, was read by Rev. Chas. G. Ames:

IN MEMORIAM.

Since the last meeting of the Assembly a heavy loss has fallen on our Organization, in the death of Miss Beulah Coates, one of the Board of Directors of the 9th Ward Association.

My acquaintance with Miss Coates was short, only extending over the two and one-half years of our relations to the Organization; and I could wish that some life-long friend, with recollections of the more than sixty years of her beneficent life, might speak to us to-night of the early youth and middle-age of her whose saintly character impressed all of us who came late to the privilege of knowing her, as one that must have been a steady unfolding of all the Christian graces. Let us hope that this brief record may incite all those old friends and lovers who may be here to-night to bear their several testimonies, not for the sake of magnifying her who has gone, with words of excessive praise, but in the hope that an example of such rare excellence may excite every fainting heart to new hope and faith.

At the early meetings for organizing the Wards Miss Coates was often present. I noticed her face and expression above all I saw in a room long before I knew her name. When I think of her at those meetings, sitting so quietly and patiently listening to the crudities of inexperience (she who knew so much more than all of us) it seems to me a wonder.

She had that quality of receptivity which prevents its possessor from growing old. It was a fine test of character that a woman of sixty-five, ardently attached to the Union Benevolent Association, in which she had been a devoted worker for forty-five years, and to which she remained loyal to the close of her life, should yet be able to join in our work with not only all the ardor and zest of youth but with a far-seeing wisdom which is not given to many.

It was my privilege to pass a few weeks under the same roof with her during the summer of 1879. The disease which has removed her from our sight had already made fatal inroads on her health, and she knew well how small was the prospect of recovery; yet the light in her eye was not quenched, nor her cheerfulness and mental activity in the least abated. In those days she told me much of the early principles of the Union Benevolent Association; how very similar they were to ours to-day, and how earnest she and her friends had been in carrying them out. She told me of the books they read in those early days: how Dr. Chalmers and Dr. Guthrie were their teachers, and how full they were of the idea of making employment the basis of relief. But she always ended with these words: "The city has quadrupled in size since the formation of the society, and the impossibility of finding Visitors enough has prevented the ideas of the founders from being carried out fully. "At first," she said, "I would have been glad to have seen the powers and means of the Union Benevolent expanded, rather than see another Society formed. But soon I saw that it was not easy to put the new wine into old bottles, and it seemed to me better not to check the new enthusiasm by attempting to do so. I longed that our society should co-operate with the new Organization. I longed to have all the other Associations co-operate with it. I saw immense benefit to arise from the stronger emphasis that is being laid on some of our first principles. I said to myself, the young will receive these ideas more readily in the new form, and they should not be forgotten. I felt that we should care more to see those principles we had labored for carried out universally, than that our own society should carry them out alone. I remembered too, how in the early days of our existence, the opposition of other so-

cieties for a long time checked some of our best efforts, and I could not be willing to oppose any other association starting in the same good faith."

These were substantially her words to me, often repeated during that lonely summer when we sat together under the shade of the chestnut trees. The earnest hopes and wishes of a saint are almost like prophecies: sure to be fulfilled sooner or later unless *we* fail in our duty to this Organization, and in kindness and deference to those who are not of us, and who have borne the burden and heat of the day so long before us.

How much our friend accomplished, bringing a youthful heart and enthusiasm to supplement her failing physical powers! It was her spirit that did so much for us! How her home-life and private character helped her public work and gave her serenity in doing it! She did not become possessed with Charity and grow morbid. She enriched her public life with private care of invalids and relatives; with a large hospitality; with a deep interest in little children; with a generous enjoyment of the outward blessings of life, so that she might shed the more sunshine on darkened lives. I recall her sweet incidental mention to me of a fact we may well lay to heart: "There are some of my poor friends", she said, "whom I have always visited at twilight, or just after dark, for I knew it would be painful to them to have their neighbors suspect they were objects of Charity." And in her last illness, when flesh and heart were failing, she remembered to arrange a birth-day festivity for the, honorary Matron of the 7th street "House of Industry", who would be ninety years old that week.

She read constantly the best books, thoughtfully and with great zest! history, biography, philosophy; so, when she took hold upon relieving the woes of life, she went among her poor, she had a broad and hopeful outlook, not narrowed to the present sad aspect of affairs as she found them, nor made morbid by the sense of unlimited responsibility. She felt as wise parents feel: "It is ours to arrange the surroundings; to provide the best influences and friends; to secure the best teachers; to keep the moral atmosphere sweet. Having done these things, it rests with a higher Power to give the increase." So she did the best work, extending over many years, working not with haste or undue absorption. I never saw any one so patient: she knew the secret of the "seventy times seven."

Nor did the narrowness or errors of others disturb this centred soul. One day she said to me: "I think one of the last attainments is tolerance towards intolerance." I told her how a friend of mine had said, that even bigotry and narrowness had their high uses; they had been the conserving forces for holding back better forms of truth, until the time and place and race of men appeared who could make them a success. She smiled in a way I shall never forget: "Ah! your friend is a philosopher," she answered. "What patience that gives! How can any one read history and not acquire a peaceful confidence in the slow working out of ideas!"

Our friend belonged to the Society of Friends, and was a consistent member of the Orthodox branch of that body. She was a member of Arch street meeting. But religious people of all churches and forms of faith felt a kinship with this precious woman, and those who belonged to no household of faith, could rely on her unfailing friendship. She was also for many years chief officer of the North 7th street House of Industry, and contributed largely by her wise counsels to the usefulness of that excellent Charity.

There are a few of us who always went to her for counsel and advice, in the perplexities that always attend a new and untried enterprise. We shall never forget the tone in which she begged us "never to give up." We never went to her without returning with lighter hearts and clearer vision. We have lost in her a fount of strength: but let us take comfort and thank God that we had her for two brief years, and that we can never work hereafter without recalling the spirit in which she sought to save the lost, and lift up the weary and heavy-laden.

Dr. H. T. Child, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. Gulielma M. Jones, Miss Susan Longstreth, and Philip C. Garrett followed with pleasant memories of Miss Coates, and

Mrs. L. L. Blankenburg said: "As a member of the 9th Ward Association I feel called to give expression to the loss we have sustained in the death of our friend and co-laborer. The Charity Organization loses one of its most earnest and efficient members, and the Board of Directors of the Ward a wise and judicious adviser. Probably no other woman in Philadelphia has given more attention to the subject of wisely administered Charity. She began the practical study of this work in 1831 by joining the Union Benevolent Association, acting as Visitor and Officer of that society until her death. Miss Coates was remarkable for her

clear insight. Always tender and sympathetic, she was also strong in her conclusions, and was thus enabled to give the best advice and relief to those who came under her care, and to raise them to better moral and physical conditions. In the Conference her counsel was invaluable. From her long experience in charitable work she believed in the fullest co-operation of men and women. The plan of this Society, started in the Fall of 1878, found in her an ardent supporter. She gave to it largely of her time, thought and means. Her great desire was to bring about harmony and united action among all the charitable societies of Philadelphia, and she had strong faith in the ultimate results of Organized Charity."

Dr. Hodge said that it was perhaps the most ardent desire of our friend to see the fullest co-operation of the charities of this city. Let us take this thought home with us and realize its importance, in order to carry on our work effectively for the benefit of each other and the benefit of the poor.

The subject announced for the evening,

VISITATION AND WOMEN'S WORK,

was then taken up.

Mrs. Dr. Angney, of the 5th Ward, stated that they were doing good work through their own Employment Office. A committee of Visitors sits daily at the ward office with some of the Directors and consults on cases as they apply, preparatory to full consideration and decision, at their weekly Friday evening conferences.

Miss Hancock explained, by request, the operations of the 6th Ward House: "In the basement we saw wood; on the next floor we receive our friends and have one dining room and kitchen; in the second story we have a Kindergarten and Nursery; in the third and fourth we lodge people who have no other place to go to. No one besides the Superintendent is paid except the teachers. Vagrants help in the house or must leave. We test them, and if they are willing to work, keep them and find other work for them. We have no trouble in finding work for them; but we do not need to advertise for more vagrants: the neighboring wards send us all we want. In two weeks 600 meals were furnished in the house. After the applicants get employment they pay for their board." They work first and eat afterwards. Mothers out at work bring us their children, whom we feed and keep till night. By an arrangement with the Police, all the children that come to the Station House are brought to us. A woman came lately, having a child with her. She paid her board, and so was not much under our control. We suspected she was using the child for begging, as she dragged it through the streets in the cold when it might have been comfortably housed with us. Plain expostulation failing, we got a warrant out for the mother, and with this persuaded her effectually. Other charities co-operate with us freely, and we have no difficulty with any of the agencies whose help we require. The woman who cooks for us was a bad case of rheumatism, and she finds it better to be at work in a warm kitchen than sitting down in an Almshouse. We are burning some trees presented by Christ Church, so gnarled and crossgrained that it is peculiarly adapted for a labor test: it will warm a man twice, once in cutting and once in burning. Our Kindergartens are entirely successful. Sewing and sweeping are the only industrial features in our schools. We care for a daily average of over fifty children.

For the 7th Ward, Miss Hollowell said they were troubled as to where to draw the line between the worthy and unworthy poor. They find as a rule that every family is really worthy of their care—all the more if it has been called "unworthy." Visitors, however, need more help from the Directors in the "unworthy" cases. In the Kindergarten and Industrial Schools there is a large number enrolled, but the average in school is small; it is difficult to secure attendance. This year an Industrial School for some too old for the Kindergarten has been added. Sewing, chiefly, is taught. Six or eight boys, who begged the privilege, are learning to sew. We have a "Kitchen Garden" twice a week, with lessons in chamberwork, cooking, building fires, etc. There are also two Colored Kindergartens in the Ward, the outgrowth of the work of our ladies.

Miss Pendleton reported for the 8th Ward, concerning the Women's Co-operative Association—which was under her care. A better class than we ordinarily deal with come into this scheme—the worthy struggling, industrious, economical poor.

An account of the Wood-Yard of the 8th and other Wards was called for, but it was objected that it was not "Women's Work."

9th Ward—Mrs. Blankenburg gave an account of the School of Household Work, which was noticed in the last number of this paper.

Mrs. John Lucas spoke for the 10th Ward. Their ladies aim chiefly at finding work for men and women and to root out poverty and wretch-

edness by work. If all knew what a relief it was to the Visitors to know of something at which to set the unemployed men they found in the families under their care, they would think that the Wood-Yard had something to do with Visiting and Women's Work. The purely relief work should be done through the old Societies as much as possible.

For the 11th and 12th Wards it was stated that the Superintendent had collected about \$700 of fuel savings, and consequently the number of applicants for the ladies to be anxious over this year was reduced very largely.

In the 14th Ward, Mr. Torrence reported the ladies were giving a good deal of sewing to poor women, paying in some cases in money and some in groceries. They had formed a sub-committee to study the feasibility and advisability of opening an educational laundry. The Day-nursery got up by the 14th, 20th and 12th Ward ladies was in a flourishing state and worth a visit.

Miss Parke, 19th Ward, found with her fellow-visitors that intemperance was the principal cause of want and suffering. Their Visitors are few in number, and have too many families to care for. The mills in that locality give people plenty of employment at good wages: They earn enough in summer, but through providence many mothers and little children now go shivering. They had no kindergartens or sewing-schools yet, but desired them very much.

Mr. P. C. Garrett of 22d Ward, thought the example of the "Pauline Home" for children taken from the alms-house should be copied for the whole city, and the children from Blockley be placed in such Homes till they could be settled in private families. The children are sent there by the Overseers of the Poor, who pay the same as the cost of keeping them in the alms-house. Children are also received at this Home from the Oxford (23d Ward) Poor-house. It was started by Mrs. Pauline Henry, the same lady who originated the Germantown Hospital.

Mr. J. R. Sypher, of the 27th Ward, could safely say that the ladies of the 27th Ward now understand thoroughly the purposes and methods of this Society and are as earnestly endeavoring to carry them out. These are found eminently practical and rational. The way has become clear as we advanced.

The cases of drunken husbands are the most difficult, and are receiving earnest attention. Our lady-Visitors hold a meeting every Monday afternoon, which some of the Directors attend, and all cases are discussed. One case will illustrate the spirit of our Visitors: A family was visited where there was real want. Some little relief was given. The woman had a jig-saw and could make toy-furniture. The Visitor offered to be her banker, and to take all the product. The man was out of work, and a place was secured for him by the Visitor. She learned that the wages were to be paid on Friday. She therefore called on Saturday to see what had been done with the money. Not seeing the husband about, the Visitor asked for him. The wife made various excuses, but finally brought him out: He confessed that he had lost his place because he had been drinking. The lady lectured him, in the presence of his family, till he broke down and cried. Having shown him a picture of what he had done, she lectured him again on what he ought to do. Then she got the family to go to the church they preferred, and after clothing the children put them to Sunday-school. She said to him: "See what you have imposed upon me by making *one* call at the Ward-office. I have got to call upon you now two or three times a week for a year! I am determined that before a year is out you shall be earning a good living, and be a comfortable, respectable family." Our system is not perfect, but it is a flexible method applicable to all Wards and all cases. Lately a highly respectable, broken-down business-man, who had not dared to make known the extremity of his affairs to his own wife and daughters, applied to us for coal. He could not unbosom the need to his church, where the ladies of his family were active and useful members. The case received the delicate attention which was necessary. But a cause of poverty was frequently found in the lazy husbands and sons. Two big, lubberly fellows were seen the other day toasting themselves behind the stove made hot with coal their mother had earned. Some are guilty of sheer neglect: A car-driver's family had to apply to us for aid. We brought him to his senses by explaining to him that "under the laws of Pennsylvania you must support your family, and if you fail to do so, we shall apply the remedy."

Mr. Sypher had just returned from Harrisburg, where he had been to explain to members of the State legislature the purposes of the bill to remove children from alms-houses and prevent the sending of children there in future. The bill had been prepared by a body in which our Society was represented, and was now before both Houses. He found no opposition to the proposed law. The only opposition was from the smaller counties, whose representatives were in doubt what to do with the children. He had replied: "Give them to some good woman in the country

till you can arrange for another place for them, as it is better to support them away from the poor-house than to support them in it."

Rev. Charles G. Ames said: "All through this meeting there has presided over us something like wisdom and something like love. There is no better work in the city than that which we are engaged in now. No higher motives to work than those which press us forward. And these women have a right to whatever encouragement and help the men can give them in this work. The motto of Beulah Coates was, 'Never give up.' She read all books that would fit her better for her work. She saturated her mind with this subject. The story of her life teaches us all. Something like this will be said of some of the women now engaged in this work when they have finished their course. This work is to grow, and we shall grow more and more into the real meaning of it, and the proof of our knowledge and our faithfulness will be in the number of families raised (not on paper, but in fact) from beggary to that nobility which has no desire to beg."

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON THE CARE AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN

held an interesting meeting last month at the Central Office (the attendance numbering 31), to consider the subjects of Compulsory and of Industrial Education. Prof. Goldwin Smith, Judge Tourgee, author of "Bricks Without Straw", etc., and Chas. Godfrey Leland (Hans Breitenman), Mrs. S. C. F. Hallowell and others specially interested in educational matters, were present by invitation, and participated. As these will be embodied in the forthcoming report of the Committee it will be improper to anticipate it. Much light, however, was elicited from the Committee's guests. Prof. Smith struck at one of the main perplexities in the way of public education when he said that its chief difficulties arose from demagoguism, and he knew of no way to suppress that except to suppress the demagogues, who were the curse of partisan government. The specimens of handicraft from the Municipal Industrial Schools of Paris were exhibited and explained by the Chairman, Mr. Torrence.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

THE FITCH CRECHE, BUFFALO.

The Buffalo Charity Organization Society made a long stride forward at its recent opening of the "FITCH CRECHE." It will be recollected that some months since Mr. Benj. Fitch, of New York City, after a careful study of the work and opportunities of the Society, handed over to it a large and commodious property valued at \$40,000, centrally located, to be used forever as a Creche (or Day Nursery.) The alterations and equipment to adapt the building to its new uses being completed, through the co-operation of the citizens, the Creche was formally inaugurated on the 7th ult., and the event marks an era in the history of Organized Charity in this Country. The numerous rooms about the institution were elegantly decorated with growing plants and flowers, and illuminated from basement to dormitory, and, as a matter of course, the place appeared to the best possible advantage.

The Hon. Sherman S. Rogers presided, and in his opening speech sketched the origin and progress of the Creche as an effort to repress some of the ills leading to pauperism by aiding women with families to engage in self-supporting labor.

It is an enlarged and fully-developed Day Nursery, and the Fitch Creche—the only one of its class on the Continent—is pronounced to be second to none in the world in its appointments, and it will serve as a model for similar charities in other American cities.

The mother and child enter by the basement door, where they are received in the office; if found eligible their names are entered in a register and the child sent to the dispensary adjoining, to ascertain if it has any infectious disease. If not, it is sent up to the first floor to the bath room, thoroughly washed and dressed in clean clothing owned by the institution, and its own clothing thoroughly aired and renovated. Each child has its own separate comb and towel. Thus purified, the child is sent into one of the three departments up stairs, according to its age, infants and larger children being divided into three classes. If the children are sick they will be sent to the infirmary, on the third floor, and given the best of care.

The infirmary is a large well-lighted room, which has been carefully fitted up to make it as desirable for sick children as possible. Back of the infirmary is a nursery fitted up with two cots for the use of any children who may not have been called for and are obliged to remain over night.

On each floor is a pound enclosed with a railing 18 inches high, containing the playthings, and serving as **romping places** for the children.

Dumb-waiters and speaking-tubes enable the Matron and Nurses to communicate instantly with all parts of the building.

The cribs and cradles have been supplied by ladies and gentlemen of Buffalo, who have bestowed on them the names of various flowers.

Mr. Fitch's representative announced to the Society Mr. Fitch's intention to further endow it with property worth over \$10,000 a year, in order to equip it more completely for its important work: but the details of this endowment are not yet made public. The plan, however, embraces a "Charity Building," with ample offices, and a suitable Hall for the Society's public meetings. When shall a similar benefactor arise to the help of Organized Charity in Philadelphia?

HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Home Missionary Society was held in the Presbyterian Church, Walnut street, west of 39th street, on Sunday evening, January 30th. The church building was well filled with intelligent and attentive listeners. A synopsis of the annual report was read, showing the following as the aggregate of its relief-work during the year:—

"The Society has distributed 1,804 orders for coal (570 tons), 1,143 orders for groceries, 420 pairs of shoes, 1,025 garments, 5,591 packages of food (67,977½ lbs.), 425 lbs. of tea, 280 lbs. of sugar, 2,200 lbs. of flour, 1,200 loaves of bread, 266 orders for medicine; relieved 11,991 families; set to work 259 unemployed; placed 199 children in permanent homes; discovered 472 unworthy of help."

This was followed by addresses by Rev. L. M. Colfelt and Rev. Jacob Todd, D.D. Mr. Colfelt opened his address by calling attention to the fact that what was his experience was that of every clergyman in charge of a large congregation, and especially so with those in the older portion of the city. He said that he was painfully conscious that of the large number of persons that rang his door-bell, and solicited aid, either to supply their own immediate wants, to provide for a wife and children, to pay passage to go home, or to some place where they could find employment and friends, *nine out of every ten were impostors*. He found it impossible to leave his home and go out to make inquiry into the condition of these people who apply to him for assistance. He has therefore made it a practice to refer all such cases to the Home Missionary Society for inquiry and for relief. The learned speaker said further, that to give indiscriminately would do far more harm than good, and urged upon all his hearers to dispense their charity through Associations that gave only upon inquiry. He was especially emphatic upon the "victims of sudden calamities," as follows:

"Sudden calamity beggars are a well-known class, and as a rule they are robbers. True, not every man who accosts you on the street or comes to your house with his tale of sudden woe, is an impostor, but nineteen out of every twenty are; and by aiding such without inquiry you are doing nineteen fold to increase professional beggary, and one fold to stop it. In six cases of strangers applying to me for help this autumn, I attempted, as Job did, to search out the cause I did not know, and in not a single instance was the case a true one."

He was very earnest in the recommendation that the inquiry and investigation should be so covered up with charity and gifts as to conceal the detective element in the Association's work. Of course this covering up with gifts would apply only to the cases that were found worthy. As to what treatment should be adopted in the cases found unworthy, no suggestion was offered.

Rev. Dr. Todd, who was the second speaker of the evening, was broader and more analytic in his treatment of the subject in hand. He divided the poor found in every community into two classes; God's poor and the Devil's poor, and showed clearly how true Charity, in its broadest sense, with its loving ministrations, its social intercourse, judicious advice, encouraging suggestion, and a general helpful influence, lifted this first class out of their misfortunes into conditions of self-help or ameliorated life; and how wise legislation, firmly yet mercifully administered, might restrain the vicious habits of the Devil's poor and force them into the leading of virtuous lives. In dealing with the latter class, the speaker laid it down as a fundamental principle—there must be a forsaking of their vicious habits and a desire implanted for a better life; and the effort to accomplish this was the sphere of real charity.

THE CLEVELAND (OHIO) SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY has been fully inaugurated, and enters upon its work most vigorously. It secures from the start a very general co-operation of official and private Charities, including the Churches; Hebrews, Catholics and Protestants are working cordially side-by-side. Bishop Gilmour of the Roman Church made an excellent address at the public meeting, and we regret that we have not space to give it entire. We give the Society a sincere welcome into the brotherhood.

NOTES.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION NEEDED IN NEW YORK CITY.

The *New York Herald* says that before another winter shall have passed over the heads of the poor of New York it is possible that there will be established to supplement and assist all the charitable societies in that city a central organization similar to those existing in Philadelphia, Buffalo, Boston and other cities in America, and which are imitations to a greater or lesser extent of "The Charity Organization Society" in London.

Rev. Dr. Kellogg, the Organizing Secretary of our own Society at its inception, being recently requested to give his views upon the best methods to be adopted in New York, replied as follows, and we re-print them by request for the consideration of our New York readers:

"The problem is not an insoluble one, and I am aware that it is under serious consideration by many benevolent and thoughtful citizens of New York. There are certain features of any such scheme that seem necessary to its success. In the first place such a central body will need to be a new and independent organization. It may well be composed of persons already in the boards of direction of existing societies, but it is almost hopeless to attempt to make such a body out of delegates chosen to represent therein the present benevolent institutions of the city. The reasons for this opinion are chiefly these: 1. Some of these relief agencies have exactly the same scope and field in common, and it is no easy matter for them to determine how they will distribute the work between them in any partition. 2. The charters of the societies are an impediment to any self-imposed restrictions upon their field. Such restrictions might put in jeopardy their various trusts. 3. The various institutions for aiding the needy are of diverse importance and strength, and they are very numerous. It would be difficult to have them all represented in one central board and yet to secure a board small enough to act with promptitude and efficiency. It would be impossible so to arrange a representation that these independent societies should have the weight respectively to which their relative importance entitles them. Yet no central board for co-operation can do the work demanded unless it can utilize all the charitable institutions of the city, from a soup society to one for protecting children from cruelty, or from a coffee-house to a church. These hindrances to a board representing officially the several hundred charitable organizations of New York are insuperable.

"Charity organization in this city must be the spontaneous action of men who believe in it, and as it has been in London, Boston, Buffalo and Philadelphia, it must also be independent. The board which directs it should vigorously abstain from administering relief so long as there is any agency fitted to the want available in the city. If it will do this and not offend the *amour propre* of old organizations they will gradually come into concert with it, perceiving the advantages of economy and effectiveness to be so gained. This has been a prominent feature of the London society. In Buffalo the organization which Mrs. Schuyler so highly commends puts upon the doors of its offices, 'No relief given.' Boston has pursued the same policy.

"The functions of a central body are, first, to investigate every application for aid. To do this it ought to have an office in every ward of the city under charge of an experienced person. To this office citizens should be invited to send every applicant for aid whose circumstances and character are unknown to them, and it should tender its services in local inquiry to every charitable agency in the city. Through these offices the poor could be distributed among the institutions of the town according to their location and specific purposes. In this way (that is, by the distribution effected by an independent organization) the old societies would find their work localized without their doing anything to impair their trusts under charter. Second, the work of each of these offices should be under the inspection of competent committees, which should study each case to determine what treatment will most speedily secure the independence of the man or family. The phrase used in Boston is, 'the graduation of dependents.' That treatment may involve employment, migration, equipment with tools, surgical appliances for the defective, etc. Third, the central board should charge itself with the duty of putting the depressed in proper connections, so that the better influences of society may act upon them. This is done in all charity organization societies by means of women visitors, who do not give relief, but befriend families with wise suggestions and sympathy. Fourth, this society should bring the municipal institutions into use. Fifth, it should instruct the community in the proper principles of beneficence and in methods, while it should discover what wants there are not provided for by existing organizations."

WHAT ORGANIZATION WOULD DO.

"Surely there is room enough for such an undertaking. Its systematic prosecution would make imposture and mendicancy difficult, would bring agencies now unnoticed into greater efficiency, would guarantee the public that no destitution should go undiscovered, would assist societies and churches in a more intelligent use of their resources. These suggestions might be expanded with many illustrations. It might be shown how one of the Philadelphia district associations brought eight societies into co-operation to maintain a sick couple, which no one of them was able alone to provide for, until they were restored and at work; how vagrants, by being offered maintenance at a cheap and respectable lodging-house until their references could be communicated with and proper disposition made of their cases, were either uncloaked as mere beggars or sent to employers or relatives if found trustworthy. But it is enough to be sure that New York is able to do what has been successfully done elsewhere, and there are many who hope she will soon lead the van in charity organization."

CASES.

Case No. 65: 13th Ward.—A young dry-goods salesman with wife and child, came from New England last fall with prospect of a situation here, but failed to secure it. Without friends, work or means, the wife fell sick, and they were soon in want. He had earned in his previous situation \$30 per week, and had spent all as fast as received. He knew no other business, and his wife was untrained in work. When discovered, they were suffering the actual pangs of protracted hunger, although wearing expensive garments and sleeping under blankets costing \$18 a pair. Immediate relief was provided, and the man found temporary work through the Visitor at directing envelopes at 70 cts. per 1000, which saved them from pawning their goods. Plainsewing was secured for the wife, but although she had been educated in music and embroidery, her plain-sewing was so poor that her employer had to rip it all out; illustrating the shallow system of educating the young for the duties of life. Later work was found for the husband at \$5.00 a week, which enables them to live in a single room without suffering; and the lesson they have learned of the need of thrift, together with his energy, make their future hopeful. The Association supplied the friendly and continued help, without which they would soon have starved or become beggars.

Case No. 66: 19th Ward.—A physician, 70 years of age, his wife, and 6 children, were recently discovered in the 19th ward in great destitution and distress, and too proud to let their wants be known. Their effects were levied on for rent, they were on the verge of actual starvation, and had no fuel but that borrowed from kind neighbors. The father had formerly a large practice and a competency in another State, but lost everything by indorsing for a friend. Too old to resume practice, he moved his family to Philadelphia, where the children might get employment. A daughter of 24 and a boy of 12 found situations; but the former slipped and fell on the ice on somebody's neglected pavement, receiving injuries which threw her out of work, and thus the \$2 a week earned by the boy was the family's only resource. Immediate and ample succor was provided, to the extent of over \$30, while correspondence was had with their former abode, proving their entire respectability.

For one daughter a private pupil was secured, for another a situation, and employment for two sons, also a free pass over the street railway for the boy. Further aid may be obtained from the county medical society, of which the old gentleman was a member. Pressing want is thus averted, and the family is now self-supporting, though in a very straitened way. One of the daughters is an accomplished teacher of the English branches and music, and can fill the place of organist. Persons knowing of vacancies in these employments may do a good turn by advising the superintendent of the 19th Ward, Dr. P. M. Schiedt, No. 2148 North Second street.

Case No. 67: 29th Ward.—A letter is received by the Society from the wife of a well-to-do citizen, warmly recommending for relief an aged woman in a distant part of the city. It is found that the latter, and a daughter who lives with her, have income enough from a pension, etc., for all actual necessities; but that some comforts suited to her age might be added. The writer of the letter proves to be this aged woman's own daughter, which fact the letter carefully conceals; and she proposes to secure these comforts at the expense of the charitable public, that she and another married daughter may be relieved of their natural and legal obligations. Difference in religious faith seems to be the reason for casting off the aged mother.

Case No. 68: 31st Ward.—An old and sick widow, drawing \$8 a month pension, spent \$7 of it for rent. Two grandsons, 14 and 17, lived with her, and earned \$7 a week, but one belonged to a target company and the other frequented a pool-room and so could not help the family. The woman's watch and clothing were pawned and she was left in greatest destitution and neglect. The house had not been cleaned up for three months, and was filthy in the extreme. When brought to the notice of the Association it at once applied the needed relief and a woman to clean up the premises, and later sent a nurse to take permanent charge; both the cleaner and the nurse being other applicants who were thus also assisted by the work. Sick-diet was regularly supplied until the woman died. She was then given a respectable burial, through special collection among the neighbors. The father of the boys was also made to take charge of them, and to give them proper oversight. Thus the friendly care of the Ward Association comforted the old woman's last days, and restored the proper ties between the boys and their parent.

We want a CORRESPONDENT and a SOLICITOR in every city where there are friends of Organized or Associated Charity.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 6.
WHOLE NO. 18.

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 15, 1881.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen. Sec., Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Wm. S. Stokley (*ex-officio*)

WARD.	VICE-PRESIDENTS.	WARD.
3. A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,	11. J. Christian Miller,	22. Jabez Gates,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,	12. W. Fred. Snyder,	23. Samuel Bolton,
5. Wm. S. Price,	13. Jas. V. Watson,	27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
6. Thomas M. Seeds,	14. Henry M. Laing,	28. John G. Williams,
7. R. C. McMurtrie,	15. Geo. Burnham,	29. Geo. W. Simons,
8. Alexander Brown,	16. Isaac A. Sheppard,	30. A. A. Catnach,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,	19. A. H. Overholt,	31. Robert Mair.
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,	20. Wm. Y. Colladay,	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)	A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,	Josiah R. Sypher,
Joshua L. Bailey (V. Pres.)	Nelson F. Evans,	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Rev. Chas. G. Ames,	Philip C. Garrett,	Geo. N. Torrence,
John H. Atwood,	Thos. C. Hand, Jr.,	Albert B. Williams,
Rudolph Blankenburg,	Thos. S. Harrison,	Robt. N. Willson.
C. E. Caldwell, M.D.,	Samuel Huston,	
H. T. Child, M.D.,		

MEETINGS UNTIL APRIL 15TH.

Monday,	March	28,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	April	4,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Tuesday,	April	5,	3 P. M., Women's General Conference.†
Friday,	April	8,	5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	April	11,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

A LEGAL DISPENSARY.

Our readers will notice by reference to the "February meetings of the Directors" that an offer was received from the bureau for the "Legal Protection for Working Women" to permit our Society to refer to its care all cases of women in need of legal advice and assistance. This bureau is doing most excellent work in a very effective manner. Cases of supposed injustice are examined and sifted, and, if reasonable grounds of action exist, are pressed to an equitable and legal adjustment. The one exception that is made is in the matter of claims for *domestic service*, which the committee in charge do not take in hand, because it is considered that when women have had their board and lodging in the homes of their employers their cases are not of as great hardship as those of sewing women and shop girls who maintain themselves. Many of the cases applying to our Associations could be fully and adequately relieved, and made independent of farther assistance, if a legal adjustment of their rights and claims could be provided; while their own ignorance or poverty prevents them from availing themselves of the remedy. Too often the poor have valid claims on relatives for support, claims for pensions, claims for wages unjustly withheld, &c., or are in distress from unlawful demands of "instalment" dealers, or from other of the countless frauds and acts of injustice perpetrated upon the poor because the oppressors think their victims are powerless to defend themselves. Women often need protection also from the personal violence of drunken husbands, sons, and neighbors; and children suffer many other wrongs than those which are guarded against by the "Society to Protect Children from Cruelty."

Often, also, the claimants, being prevented by sheer poverty from employing a reputable lawyer, fall into the hands of sharpers and pettifoggers, who only hinder justice in order to drain the more fees from the case, and these doubly need protection.

No similar charitable provision yet exists for legal protection for *men*, but measures have been initiated which it is hoped may soon secure such relief for them also.

CO-OPERATION WITH CHURCHES.

Among the amendments made to the By-laws for Ward Associations last year was one enlarging the functions of the Committee on Correspondence by making it also a Committee on Co-operation. The object of this change was the definite assignment of the work of establishing co-operation to one of the Standing Committees. There are in every ward many relieving agencies acting separately, and each of these is without knowledge of what others are doing. Churches have their committees to look after the poor, and every clergyman has his poor fund; there are soup houses, homes, temporary lodging houses, committees of citizens, and private persons, all distributing relief. The Committee on Co-operation in each ward is directed to establish a co-operation of effort for the proper care of the poor between all such agencies. Easy enough to suggest; not so easy to do. The Twenty-seventh Ward Association has entered upon a method for the establishing of such co-operation, which has been productive of very good results. The Committee of the Board of Directors, having the matter in charge, arranged with the pastors of the Churches in that ward for a series of "Charity Organization meetings," for the purpose of explaining the "methods and purposes" of the Association to the Church congregations. The proposition was not to call a special meeting on some "off night," but to take a regular evening meeting, and devote it to charity. Five such meetings have been held in five churches; previous notice was given in each case that the regular meeting would be given to the cause of charity. The Committee on Co-

operation invited persons to address the meetings; they brought to the meetings copies of the Annual Report of the Association, circulars and investigation tickets for distribution. The meetings in every instance were opened with the ordinary devotional exercises, conducted by the pastor, after which the persons designated by the committee were invited to make addresses.

Usually the chairman of the committee explained the existence and nature of the Ward Association, the form of the Organization, the duties of the committees and of the women's corps of visitors; another speaker would explain the nature and the extent of the work of the Association, the methods of carrying it on, the ways in which the Organization could be made useful to the churches, the community and the poor, closing with a specific invitation to all to investigate the operations of the Association for themselves and to use the facilities it afforded to aid them in the administration of their charities.

The effect of these meetings in the 27th ward is appreciable, first of all, in the general intelligence prevalent in that community, and the consequent cordial support given to the Association by its best citizens. The reflex effect is equally marked; the active workers in the Association have been instructed, strengthened and encouraged in their efforts to provide the wisest and the best relief for the poor of the ward, so that it may not be too much to say that in no other ward in the city are the principles of the Society more thoroughly understood or more intelligently applied. This method of strengthening the position of the Ward Associations, and of extending their usefulness, is worthy the serious consideration of every Ward Board of Directors.

FROM A PAPER UPON

SOCIAL SCIENCE IN THE LAW OF MOSES,

READ BEFORE THE BAPTIST MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, FEB. 7TH, 1881.

BY REV. DR. H. L. WAYLAND.

PAUPERISM.

What was the aspect of the Mosaic Law towards pauperism?

Of direct reference to pauperism there is much less than might be expected. Indeed, I do not see any recognition of the pauper class. Among a primitive laborious people (as among the early settlers of New England), the problem of pauperism is very simple. I imagine that the long and weary wandering in the wilderness of Sinai sifted the people; the incapable dropped out; the indolent were forced into industry or worse, and the fittest survived.

TENURE OF OWNERSHIP IN THE SOIL.

After the people had entered Canaan there was an abundance of land (always, a safeguard against pauperism); and as the population increased under the prosperous reigns of the earlier kings, the limits of the territory widened. The division of the land made provision for each family, so that none need be landless. And if any one sold his land, he was not yet hopeless and without an interest in the State; for he knew that the Jubilee year would restore the land to him or to his descendants.

It is a very remarkable fact that recently a similar provision was proposed in India for the relief of the poor and landless. Says the *Speculator* (London):

"A landless peasant in India is a brigand, or a rebel, or at best a disaffected man. Strict laws of insolvency would give the money-lender all he could ask, and transfer the freehold of whole counties from the cultivators to men who could not manage the estates, and do not want to hold them. The Legislature, therefore, steps in, and decrees, first, that imprisonment shall be abolished; secondly, that implements of husbandry and draught cattle shall be exempt from seizure; thirdly, that all land not specially pledged shall be exempt; and fourthly, that the land shall be partly exempt, the native revenue-collector managing it for the creditor for twenty years, but giving the debtor out of it a subsistence allowance. After that term the debt will be canceled and the land restored to the peasant free. This most remarkable arrangement, which must have been suggested by some one who had studied the similar arrangement devised by Moses, and called in our version the 'Jubilee,' is clearly the test-point of Mr. Hope's law, and if it succeeds, will mark its author as an exceptionally able legislator. It gives the money-lender a twenty years' annuity of the whole profit of the soil beyond the actual subsistence of the cultivator, clearly as much as he ought to have calculated on receiving. If he lends more money than that is worth, he has lent too much, and must lose, like any other foolish creditor. At the same time the indebted peasant is not turned out, for the revenue collector will employ him as cultivator, and the family retains its full ultimate right of ownership, which is invaluable to its own idea of

social dignity. It will re-enter on its "rights" in twenty years. Natives do not count time as we do, and the idea of waiting for twenty years will not be intolerable, either to the father, who will labor on patiently, or to the sons, who will wander a-field until their jubilee term arrives."

The effect of the jubilee year and of the return of land to the original owner would be to prevent the growing up of a landless class. It would also prevent the growth of vast estates and the accumulation of the land in a few hands, with the natural consequent evils. Land is not altogether subject to the same laws as other forms of property. If there is a monopoly or a corner established in wheat, it will be but a temporary inconvenience, for within a few months the amount of wheat in the market can be doubled. But the amount of *land* is fixed; and every human being has a right to standing room; and there is no right of property that can justify a set of men in getting all the available land into their hands, and then saying to the rest of the human race: "This is *our* land. You must come to our terms, or you can have no foothold here, and you may step out into some other little planet."

WAGES AND PLEDGES.

All of the provisions of the Law are very favorable to the unfortunate poor. The warnings against oppression, against harshness in exacting debts, against withholding from the laboring man his wages even beyond sundown, these warnings and commands are startling and oft repeated, though the later history shows that they were not always effectual. The provision for leaving something for the gleaners, the prohibition of usury as between brethren of the Hebrew race and creed, the release of debts in the seventh year, the care that the outer garment taken as a pledge should not be withheld from the poor debtor over night, the law forbidding the taking of the upper or the nether millstone as a pledge, forbidding also the taking of the raiment of a widow as a pledge; all these provisions indicate care for the poor. And the further command that the creditor should not go into the house of the debtor to take his pledge, was designed to maintain the honest dignity of the debtor, was a reminder that, though poor, "a man's a man for a' that."

All these provisions have as their aim (according to the marginal reading in Deut. xv, 4), "To the end that there be no poor among you." The words, "The poor shall not cease out of the land," like the words of our Lord: "The poor ye have with you always," are not to be taken as forbidding or discouraging efforts for the complete removal of pauperism; and our friends of the Society for Organizing Charity need never fear that their occupation will be gone. They are a prediction of a tendency or fact, like the prediction that the earth shall bring forth briars and thorns, which, however, does not discourage us from the vigorous use of the hoe.

DIGNITY OF LABOR.

And (most important feature of all, perhaps,) was the marked dignity that was given to labor. Is not here a partial explanation of the provisions requiring such costly array, such laborious workmanship in wood and brass and gold and woven fabrics of all sorts, for the use of the tabernacle? It seems at first sight strange that a people struggling for the support of life should be called to furnish so lavishly their place of worship. There was of course a religious and moral lesson. It was designed to infuse into them a sense of reverence for the unseen and the supernatural, and to teach them to make sacrifices for a great sentiment. But more than that, did not the consecration of their toils to this object give a dignity to labor?

To the same end also was the fact that skillful artificers were regarded as having in a peculiar manner the spirit of God. "Thou shalt speak unto all that are wise-hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments," etc. Also, "I have filled Bezaleel with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to devise cunning works, to work in gold," etc.

When I see the performance of some of our own mechanics, and remark how very frugal an outlay of honest skill and aspiration goes to a job, I could wish that they might imbibe the spirit of the law of Moses. If there were a general sense of the dignity of labor, there would be no pauperism.

So far as we can judge from the Scripture narration, though there were poor in all the olden time, yet there were no *paupers*, that is, no *abled-bodied* paupers supported by public charity.

CRIME.

Somewhat similar was the relation of the Mosaic law to *crime*. Among a people of simple life and industrious habits, where there are no very rich and no very poor, and few large cities, there will be few criminals, and still fewer professional criminals. Hence, there will not be needed an elaborate system of criminal procedure. The minor acts of heedless-

ness or slight violence Moses punished with fines and with stripes; the gravest offences against life or person, or treason against the State, or such crimes as indicate hopeless vileness, he visited with death. Imprisonment is unknown to the law of Moses.

It is a noticeable fact that we are coming back toward a belief in the efficacy of stripes as a penalty for various crimes. In England garroting and wife-beating are so punished, and very justly. Thieves and robbers dislike to be convicted in Delaware. The only post under Government that no one competes for is the *whipping post*. The lines do not fall in pleasant places.

As for the more complex crime-problems that would come with the increase of wealth and population, I imagine that Moses was very willing that coming generations should meet them with the aid of their matured and accumulated wisdom.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

The following resolutions were adopted in relation to the present effort to secure legislative enactment forbidding the placing or retaining of children in the Almshouses of the State, viz.:

Resolved—That the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity express their gratification at the introduction into our State Legislature of a Bill to prohibit the keeping of children in the Poor-houses of the State.

Resolved—That the Board express their earnest desire to see the principle of the Bill enacted as a part of the law of the State.

Resolved—That copies of these Resolutions be transmitted to the Governor of the State and to the Committees of the Legislature which have this Bill before them.

The resignation of the Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D., necessitated by his acceptance of the Presidency of Griswold College, at Davenport, Iowa, was received and accepted, and the following expression of the sentiments of the Board was adopted, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes, viz.:

"The Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, in accepting, with great regret, the resignation of Rev. D. O. Kellogg, D. D., from its membership, desire to record their high estimate of his services to the cause of Organized Charity in this city. Dr. Kellogg was the General Secretary of the Society in the year of its inception, and nothing but his unrelaxing energy and zeal would have secured for the Society the rapid organization which was effected in those years. Since his resignation of this important office we have had the greatest benefit from his counsels and his active services as a member of this Board and of several of its committees. It is with unusual regret that we learn that his acceptance of the Presidency of a College in a Western State will prevent his acting in this capacity with us, and we accompany him to his new field of labor with our best wishes for his prosperity and success."

An appropriation of \$100 was made in aid of the treasury of the 19th Ward Association.

An offer was received from Mrs. S. C. F. Hallowell, Chairman of the Committee (of the New Century Club) for the "Legal Protection of Working Women," kindly permitting our Ward Associations to refer to it all cases of women needing legal protection and relief, except only in the matter of claims for wages for domestic service. The meetings of the Committee to hear complaints are held at 1112 Girard Street, on Wednesdays, from 7 to 10 p. m., and on Saturdays, from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR MARCH.

The stated meeting of the Women's General Conference was held 1st inst. at 3 p. m., Mrs. Gillingham presiding, and Mrs. Gawthrop acting as secretary.

Owing to the storm, but 50 Visitors were present; and reports were presented from but 10 wards. These gave the following particulars:—9 children temporarily sheltered until permanently placed;—3 children put in private houses;—5 placed in Institutions;—55 in Ward-Schools. Of adults, 1 was put in the House of Correction;—6 were placed in Hospitals;—11 sent to the Alms-house;—work was found for 124;—medical aid was provided for 37;—sick diet was secured for 8;—7 were sent to distant homes out of the State, (5 of them to Indiana);—1 was placed in a Home for aged persons at a cost of \$150, and 1 was permanently relieved by restoring family ties, by which the relatives agreed to give full support.

The 23d Ward reported the opening of a Day Nursery in Frankford by our Visitors and other residents. The 6th Ward reported again that *all the temporary relief* needed in that Ward had been *secured from other Societies*, leaving the Ward funds free for the remedial and preventive work of the Association. In various Wards the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the German Society, The Union Benevolent Association, and the Home Missionary Society supplied relief to our cases, on proper request being made.

The total number of visits are not reported, but the above items will give a faint idea of the vast amount of solid work contributed by our Visitors daily, in addition to the visits at the houses of the poor, in studying into their needs, which are met by these pains-taking efforts.

Mrs. L. L. Blankenburg of the 9th Ward made a verbal report to the effect that owing to the purchase by the Penna. R. R. of the greater part of the poorer section of the Ward and consequent removal of the families, that there were now very few families under their charge.

Mrs. Spencer Roberts of 12th Ward, reported valuable additions to their Corps of Visitors of those who, though new to our ranks, were doing much self-denying work.

Mrs. S. I. Lesley of the 7th Ward, alluded to the fact that so many of our own friends and our nearest neighbors were ignorant of the value and need of Organized Charity, and of the mischief done by giving at house doors to strangers. The remedy suggested was, that such neighbors should be visited personally and by a systematic plan, the objects of the Association clearly explained, and the request made that the Society be given a trial, or at least be assisted to that degree that it may not be hindered by giving of food or clothes to applicants at the doors or on the streets. Of course great tact and judgment will be required in the Visitors selected for this duty. If we thus influence but a few families in each Ward, the aggregate gain would be large, and it would at least show that we are not inimical to, or competing with, other societies, but that we aim to help and further all of them.

Several Visitors endorsed these views, and farther suggested more effort to secure the active co-operation of the public press, and to increase the circulation of the "Monthly Register" as a valuable means to extend information and educate the public mind. Much practical help in relief-work can also be secured by greater efforts on the part of each Ward Association to co-operate with the police and city officials.

Information was asked regarding the present number of vagrants operating in the city, and the experience of Wards was found to differ. In some Wards such offenders have become almost extinct, while in others where no efforts were made to suppress them, they now abound. Several instances of vagrant children were also given.

Miss Hancock said that the reason this was not stopped was because nothing was done with these children. If when found, they were detained, the parents would soon come and find them. They could be arrested and the law applied.

Mrs. F. B. Ames, 29th Ward, said we must first make sympathizing citizens know that they are pandering to the lowest vices by aiding these vagrants and children, and then take every advantage of the law. Few householders realize that they are abetting the vilest dens in the city with all their crimes and horrors, by gifts of food at the back gates to those of whom they have no personal knowledge.

Mrs. Blankenburg described the plan used in Germany, a notice being put in each member's house, that no aid is given except through the Organized Charity; and that house is free from beggars, while the next door without the notice will be over-run.

Mr. Kellogg, the General Secretary, explained a plan somewhat similar for protecting houses and counting-rooms from vicious beggars, which was now being perfected and would soon be put into effect through the Central Office.

Much discussion ensued upon the need to instruct servants in the evil of promiscuous giving of family stores at the back gates; and upon the benefits that might be bestowed on properly selected families when supplied with the surplus food of wealthy families, particularly if friendly relations, wisely exercised, could be maintained between the givers and receivers. There was of course danger of pauperizing the people by this means, and there was, as in all other departments of relief, need for judgment and discrimination; and if only those were so fed, whose circumstances were fully known, and the food was sent to them whenever practicable, so they would not sally out with baskets as beggars on the streets. Much good could be done if well-to-do families having such surplus to contribute would send word to the Ward Visitors or Superintendent who could select and refer only worthy and needy cases to be thus helped. This is done in the 15th ward to good purpose, preference being given to old people, and much good thereby results, and much relief is afforded without any drain upon the ward re-

sources. Of course it were better that the food should be thrown to waste than to be given to little children employed for this purpose, and thus assisting in demoralizing a single human soul.

The danger of pauperizing little children is very great; they so early notice the ways and means of home life, and see how easily support is gained by begging, and no labor given in return, and thus reap the evil effects of the example.

Mrs. Ames emphasized the principle that only the slightest aid should be given, enough to lift the applicant up for the time, and that some adequate relief should be sought and supplied. Such for instance, as removing them from crowded cities to country homes, or to the West, where there is a chance for independence. If a climate does not suit, aid them to one that does; or if a man has a trade whose ranks are crowded here, move him to another town where there is a demand for such labor.

Mrs. Wharton deprecated the use of the station house as a temporary place for little children and young girls or boys, and advised that each station house should have a woman in it, or better still, a man and his wife.

Dr. Walk said the children of the 15th Ward were never taken to the station house, but to the shelter of an institution which was kindly offered them for the purpose.

The Committee on Records and Reports was increased by the addition of Miss Susan Hallowell, Miss A. E. Clark, and Mrs. M. T. Gawthrop.

A resolution was adopted, permanently appointing the 1st Tuesday of each month at 3 p. m. as the time for the Stated Meetings of the Conference.

The Chair called attention to Paper No. 30, ("Hints to Visitors"), issued from the Central Office, as of such value that she hoped it might be kept in constant circulation among the Visitors.

The conference then adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The Assembly held its stated meeting for March on the evening of the 7th inst., Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding. The Secretary, Thos. C. Hand, Jr., having read the minutes of the last meeting,

Mr. G. N. Torrence, Chairman of the "*Committee on the Care and Education of Children*," explained the division of its labors among its sub-committees, and

Miss Pendleton, Chairman of its sub-committee on

COMPULSORY AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION,

reported in substance as follows:—

"The subjects which we have considered come under four heads: *What is taught in the Public Schools; What should be taught in the Public Schools; How many children are out of school; and Why they are out of School.*

"There were 103,567 children attending the public schools of Philadelphia in 1879.

In the High School,	495 boys,
In the Normal School,	975 girls,
In the School of Practice,	307 girls,
In the Grammar Schools,	7,243 boys and 7,838 girls,
In the Consolidated Schools,	3,869 boys and 3,551 girls,
In the Secondary Schools,	12,724 boys and 13,585 girls,
In the Primary Schools,	27,138 boys and 25,842 girls.

The grade of these schools is not uniform, owing, among other things, to the lack of a Superintendent; but some of them have reached a high degree of proficiency. The absence of manual instruction is, however, observable. Drawing is the only instruction given with a view to develop the dexterity of the hand.

There were 21,000 children out of school in Philadelphia, according to the latest verified estimate, made some years ago. The causes of this large absence appear to be:

1. That 5,000 of them are refused admittance for lack of accommodation. \$1,000,000 were appropriated in 1873 for public school buildings, and have been expended. As population moves away from an old school building, it is left entirely, or partially unused, and if it is sold the proceeds are paid into the city treasury. The fund for school buildings thus becomes gradually reduced, while the school population rapidly increases.

2. The illegal employment of a large, but unascertained, number of children in our factories.

The remainder are the *derelict* and *neglected* children.

3. The *derelict* are those who are truants through the indifference of parents, and the absence of a law compelling attendance.

4. The last and most important cause is the large number of *neglected children* of paupers, criminals, beggars, drunkards and other idle and shiftless folk. Criminals err either from some innate defect or weakness, or from the force of education and surroundings. The many thousand neglected children come broadly under this latter head. They are born into degraded companionship, bred only to depravity, heirs of sin and suffering, swelling by an irresistible law the ranks of pauperism and crime—unless rescued by some force from without. This class should be the first whom a State should care for and educate.

In New York City, schools and lodging-houses were established 20 years ago for such children by the Children's Aid Society, which has now 21 Day and 13 Night Schools. The large decrease in the number of annual commitments of vagrant and thieving adults and of juvenile delinquents, notwithstanding the increase in population, is claimed as the result of their system. Mr. Chas. L. Brace, of that society, stated before our Assembly last winter that only three out of every thousand children trained in these schools became paupers and criminals, although they are the children of paupers and criminals. The system is semi-industrial.

In Boston this class is covered by a compulsory education law; but as such children must always be dealt with by special methods, they are sent to a Home School, provided for them.

There was in Philadelphia here and there a church or mission school, but no general recognition of the needs of this class of children, or efforts to provide training schools for them, until last winter, when Visitors of the Charity Organization opened several kindergarten and day-nurseries. During this winter the 6th Ward Association has gathered a number of children into four schools; two of them kindergarten, the other two training schools for older children. Sewing and house work are the industrial features of these. In other wards there are kindergarten, kitchen gardens, day-nurseries and schools, in which instruction in sewing and house work are given to girls and boys. There are two well-managed kindergarten for colored children, and, in view of the lack of industrial training for the colored race in this city, these two schools are a hopeful sign. The rapid growth of this movement has attracted friends of education outside our ranks, and steps are being taken to incorporate the schools.

There is also an admirable kindergarten in Filbert, above 20th, under Miss Burritt, established to test the system practically in connection with the regular system of public instruction.

We now approach with diffidence the problems of Compulsory and Industrial education.

So far from attacking the public schools, our researches have strengthened our opinion that public schools are the most powerful agents for preparing free communities for self-government; but the school system which sufficed for former years must be modified to meet the new conditions of to-day. The time when industries were taught in workshops and at home, and when letters were the only neglected branch of education, has passed away.

As a basis for our opinions we consulted persons throughout the country especially qualified to advise us, viz.: Mr. Charles Francis Adams, jr., Dr. John D. Philbrick (Commissioner of Education at the Paris Exposition), Miss Lucretia P. Hale (of the Board of Education of Boston), Mr. J. P. Wickersham (State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Pennsylvania), Mr. Edward T. Steel (President of the Board of Education of Philadelphia), Mr. George L. Harrison and Mr. Charles G. Leland, of Philadelphia.

The queries submitted to them were:

1st, Do you approve of compulsory education?

2nd, If you disapprove, how do you propose to fill the schools?

3rd, If you approve, do you recommend the public school system, or a semi-industrial system?

4th, Do you approve of *drawing, the use of tools and sewing* in the Public Schools? If you approve of other forms of *manual instruction*, what other?

5th, Do you approve of Froebel's kindergarten system, and, if so, do you advise introducing it into the public school system?

6th, At what age should the education of the child by the State begin?

7th, Do you approve of State schools of handicrafts, or of subsidies from the State to such schools?

On matters of theory, such as the power and responsibility of the State, the answers differed widely; from one who believes that the State should only provide the rudiments of education, to another who holds that all education should be by the State; but in matters of practical application *there is absolute unanimity of opinion*. Compulsory education, sewing and other manual instruction; the kindergarten in connection

tion with public instruction; and schools of handicrafts are approved in *every instance*, with the sole exception of the one writer who disapproves of all but rudimentary public instruction: in his opinion schools of handicrafts should be established by private charity or enterprise. It is universally admitted that the *hand* should no longer be neglected in education.

Compulsory education is only directed against *derelict children* and the parents of *neglected children*. But important as the training of such children is, hasty action, in enacting a compulsory law without appliances for its efficient enforcement, would retard the end in view, and the law would be inoperative.

The best method of filling the schools is, no doubt, that adopted in Japan, "where exists a complete system of public instruction, comprising a native kindergarten system, primary schools for general rudimentary instruction, and special schools fitting the pupil for his avocation in life. The course covers fifteen years, and the whole juvenile population are voluntary attendants upon the schools. This marvellous system enables the Government of Japan, through its agency, to introduce at will western civilization into Japan."

Next comes the perfected system of Boston, where an enlightened public sentiment encourages the School Board to devise better methods of instruction; and compels the attendance of derelict and neglected children upon schools particularly established to meet their needs. But these systems imply much preparation of the community. Even the admirable elemental system of London is still in advance of public sentiment here. The basis of that system is the Act of 1870, which says that "there shall be provided for every school district a sufficient amount of accommodation in public elementary schools available for all the children resident in such district for whose elementary education efficient and suitable provision is not otherwise made."

In Boston and in London there are a few women on the Boards of Education. It is a singular instance of the conservative force of prejudice that it is still considered to be beyond the province of women to superintend the training and education of children.

The system of elementary education for neglected children devised by the Children's Aid Society of New York, and adapted by the women of the Charity Organization to Philadelphia, is practicable, meets the wants of to-day, and, if properly sustained, offers the channel through which such children are to be reached here.

We earnestly commend to all interested in such philanthropic efforts the "Philadelphia Education Society" to support and multiply these schools, which have been sustained thus far by precarious charity. In New York, the City grants subsidies to the Children's Aid Society, and individuals become responsible for certain schools. The generous donations recently made to our schools lead us to hope for such support from the philanthropists of Philadelphia.

The kindergarten system has received such high endorsement, and has been so thoroughly tested, that we hope it will soon be adopted into the curriculum of our public schools. Children in factories merit the attention of that best of modern Societies—the Society to Protect Children from Cruelty; but we would not recommend any hasty action, as these children may be better off as they are until schools are prepared for them. The factory even is better than the street.

For all these problems we suggest but one solution, that the friends of education organize themselves into an association to further wise methods of public instruction, and to become a centre of work and a powerful agent for forming public opinion.

The authorities, the Board of Education, and all connected with the administration of the schools, would no doubt welcome such a body as a valuable ally. The hour is auspicious: public attention is aroused to public wants, and good and wise men are in power. Let it not be said that the friends of education were laggards in the movement of reform, when they have so recently witnessed the power of right thinking grow, in a few short weeks, into right acting. Such a society would contribute toward right thinking on questions of public instruction. The field for its work is already indicated, but there are many other pressing questions: such as the compilation of laws bearing upon school questions, as, for instance, a law against relatives of school officers receiving appointments as teachers, etc., and the dangerous condition of the colored population from being practically excluded, under the present system of apprenticeship, from the trades. Such a society should be formed outside of this Organization, and it may be well that a committee should be formed to consider its advisability.

In conclusion, we would draw your attention to the specimens exhibited on the platform from the apprentice schools of Paris, brought to this country by Mr. Geo. L. Harrison. There is one, however, a small bracket rudely carved in wood and varnished, which is of peculiar in-

terest to us, as it was made by a child in one of the London Schools for Neglected Children. Can it be claimed that the gutter child of London who made this bracket is not being educated?

On motion of Mrs. Lesley, the meeting chose a special committee, consisting of Hon. George L. Harrison, Mr. James S. Whitney, and Miss Pendleton, to take charge of the recommendation, in the report, concerning the proposed Society.

Compulsory Education.

Judge A. W. Tourgee being called upon for his views upon Compulsory Education, said he had positive convictions on the subject, as his life had been spent where education was conspicuous for its absence, and in discussing it he should avoid side issues. The question is: "Has Government a right to compel education, without considering how, where, or by whom." This settled, minor questions are easily adjusted.

Compulsory education is more than picking up boys and girls and compelling them to go to the public schools. Government has the right and duty to compel a certain amount of education to be acquired by every citizen of ordinary capacity, and to ordain that no one shall sink his child in absolute ignorance. Some opposers take the high ground that Government has no right to interfere with the education of any citizen's child. The parent has a clear right to direct it, unless it is against the public interest. There is the crime of refusing sustenance to the child and the greater moral crime of refusing mental aliment. But private rights must give way to that quantum of education which is decided to be necessary for the public preservation and welfare. Every uneducated voter is a blind ruler; a king on a throne of vast power without knowledge of his position. The citizen is the ultimate arbiter of all great questions. English conservatism worships a thing because it is old. It may be carrion. American conservatism believes in the new, but will not adopt it till the 59th minute of the 11th hour. We did not touch slavery till we had either to die or sweep it away, when we locked horns with it and settled it. We mean to attend to this question of ignorance, but have not time yet. 45 out of every 100 voters in 16 States cannot read their ballots; 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ out of 100 white men in them can't read and write, and in 2 States an actual majority are thus ignorant! And these are our rulers! A man who cannot read cannot know how to vote; and the balance of power being illiterate, it preponderates to evil. Kill the illiterate voter and you kill the demagogue. A "boss" is powerless unless he can deceive, and his power to deceive depends upon the ignorance of the voters. The honest ignorant man is more dangerous than the cunning demagogue. Ignorance makes three-fourths of a President, and 81 per cent. of the Senate. Every man should have the means of knowing the powers, uses and limits of his Government.

Every civilized country considers the care of the blind and the deaf mutes a first mortgage on its resources, and the man who can see and hear and talk is worth just as much. If he cannot read his contract he cannot protect his labor, and is at the mercy of his employer. He may labor every day in the year, only to find himself in debt for each day's support. As Solomon says: "The labor of the fool is vanity, because he knoweth not the way to the city." He produces, but does not know the way to market.

As a mere police preventive against pauperage, Government should insist that every citizen know at least the "3 R's." He who has learned his alphabet has got a long way from barbarism; when he can cipher he has made another long stride; and when he can write his name to a bond he has secured the right to come into court at the tail of a writ and defend himself as a free man.

If you enact compulsory education, you must enforce it. Some parents need the services of their children; but shall these suffer, or all the children and parents of the country suffer? Ignorance will ruin the whole country, and so we say, "if you won't give your children intellectual liberty, we will take away your physical liberty."

After allusions to the public schools of Prussia and England, Judge Tourgee closed by saying that another 6 per cent., added to this 45 per cent. of ignorance may decide national questions, and influences are now growing which may show the power of these figures. One person of education and intelligence may, four years from now, decide the destiny of the nation. The benefits arising from education are innumerable: the evils from ignorance are incalculable. The bearing of them has been burned into me by 15 years of thought and experience. You can only know by careful study the danger of an element which can be misled by reckless craft, or misguided by its own lack of knowledge. The right of the nation, therefore, to impose education is simply the right of self-defence in another form.

Mr. R. Blankenburg, while coinciding fully with these views, thought

the remarks one-sided, as the Judge spoke only of educating the boys, and said nothing about girls, for whom education was just as necessary.

Judge Tourgee had "always thought that the boys embraced the girls."

Judge Wm. S. Peirce said the authority for compulsory education was in the duty and necessity of providing for the welfare of the country, especially under self-government. Under the English law the King was *parens patriæ*, and the same principle obtains here. The Chancellor, in England, had control of the education of the children, and that power has come to us, and the judges of our Courts exercise it in cases where the parents are living, but are incompetent or neglect their duty. The people here are sovereign. This power has existed in England from time immemorial, and has been transferred here. There is no doubt about the power and duty of the Government to exercise this function in favor of those who need it.

Mr. Francis Wells, editor of the *Evening Bulletin*, said that opinion appeared to be pretty much one way now on this subject. This was a great change. Judge Tourgee couldn't ten years ago have taken the ground he has done to-night without raising a considerable opposition. Mr. Wickersham, our State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and many others, were earnestly on the affirmative. The first prominent writer and advocate of it in this State was Hon. Geo. L. Harrison, then President of the Board of Public Charities. His papers were among the chief agencies in spreading the idea.

Professor R. E. Thompson said there was not such a unanimity on the subject as had been taken for granted. So far as he knew, the educators were opposed to the compulsory method. The teachers, in their State association, thrice voted it down. He believed a majority of the teachers opposed it as impolitic. And why rush to this extreme step before trying milder ones? Is there no way but by the policeman and the magistrate? Better to clear away the difficulties that keep children out of school, and to make school so attractive that it will take compulsion to keep them away. In the South nothing has been done for the public schools. Those States mistakenly used the lands set apart for education to found universities and colleges instead of schools. The adults need education as much as the children: why not compel every man and woman to go to school? You will alienate friends and create a repulsion in the very class you wish to benefit by such a law; it is not democratic, and you cannot enforce it any more than you could a law that all should have blue eyes!

Mr. Charles Godfrey Leland then presented the subject of

Industrial Education.

He said that often the same idea seizes minds in different countries at the same time. A planet is discovered by several astronomers at once. It is so about this revival of hand training. All at once, in France, Belgium, England and in this country, practical people thought it was not enough that children should learn reading, and writing, but also some industry by which they could afterwards earn a living. Trades require too much time and brain-power. In introducing hand-training into our public schools, we did not see at first what the children could be set at—everything seemed either too difficult or too trifling, until we hit upon the minor decorative arts as the easiest. We have the cordial aid of the School Board in the beginning we are trying to make. By using the hands quickness of perception and of intellect are developed. We have the fullest demonstration of this in the kindergarten. The work I would introduce—there are easily 25 branches of it—would come in between the kindergarten and the heavier work of the Industrial Schools. In the inception I propose to take the holidays and Saturdays, and the few boys and girls who become interested will bring others; that is the way it will grow.

Judge Tourgee wished Mr. Leland would tell us how the gypsies teach children quickness of perception.

Mr. Leland—In its lower stages it is a mechanical quickness, which by practice becomes also intellectual quickness. Sneak thieves take, say 20, objects in the hand and toss them up together, catching them again as they fall; and the boy must tell each article that he has seen. After such training, when that boy is sent into your kitchen it does not take him long to get an inventory of its contents. Policemen learn to see all that is going on on both sides of the street at once. Artillerymen acquire an accuracy in sighting distances, so that they blunder less and less. Boys in shops very soon grow in perception and dexterity. It is not a mere handiness; it is a sharpening of the faculties of the brain as well.

Mr. Joseph G. Rosengarten moved the following resolutions:

Resolved—That this meeting heartily endorse the plan of an association for the furtherance of wise methods of public instruction, as set forth in the report of the Committee read this evening.

Resolved—That the thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to Miss Pendleton for her able report, and that a copy be requested for printing, in order that the subject may thus be brought home to the authorities and to the citizens of this city.

The motion was put and the resolutions were warmly adopted *nem. con.*

Edward T. Steel, Esq., President of the Board of Education, desired to see Industrial, intellectual and moral education united as parts of one system. The present beginnings of hand training, he hoped, would lead to instruction in trades. Even a Republican Government, instead of losing its character by compelling education, should require certain concessions on the part of every citizen for the general welfare. No man who has not a skilled occupation should have a right to vote. It is a singular thing that there is so little willingness among worthy citizens to take public office. The offices are many of them filled and held by men who know no other occupation. If this Government required of all, say three years' training in some skilled employment, as Prussia requires in the School of Arms, it would not be so. The graded system of mechanical instruction in this country was first suggested by the Centennial exhibit of Russia, which showed a complete set of models, from the first auger-hole bored to, the finished work. This exhibit had been presented to the Mass. School of Technology, at Boston, which Institute was a sight to see. Surrounding the building pavilions were put up for workshops, and the boys have really a gymnastic exercise of it. To assign the education of the country to the "political" part of it is absurd. Moral instruction should be made an inseparable part of the system. The public schools should be held responsible for all the ill manners in the community. Most of the youth of the population are in the public schools, and the impressions made there are stamped upon society and upon the State. He believed every man and woman should feel not only a general sentiment about, but an active interest in, the public schools, and show it by frequent visits to them. The schools belong to the people, and they should look after them. The School Board can only carry out the laws as they find them.

Mr. Wm. Gulager, Chairman of the School Board's Committee on Industrial Education, said: That industrial education, as introduced by Mr. Leland, has been taken hold of by the Committee with very lively interest. It is a new thing for Philadelphia to take such an interest in the boy and girl; they have been let alone for a good many years. There was a time when they could go, after the schooling, into some occupation as apprentice or employee. It is not so now. Before we can go much further, public sentiment must be educated to that point where it will influence those who furnish the money. The city grows; applications for school accommodation and opportunities increase; but the same money, or less, is given each year. The Board of Public Education will heartily favor any action which may be taken to forward industrial education.

Mr. James S. Whitney thought that it would be well if a little "compulsion" were applied first to those who furnish the money. We must be grateful to Mr. Leland for his practical measures of improvement. Industrial education is a very complicated subject, and to be treated discriminately. In the industrial schools of Moscow, instead of attempting to make machines, they only teach the principles. Mr. Whitney sketched the course in wood work, etc., at the Boston Technological School. He did not see why some of these pursuits could not be introduced into our schools by dropping out some of the studies and putting in these. The trades are so broken up now, it seems as if the idea of industrial education had come just at a time when it is likely to succeed.

The hour of 10 having passed, and the interest in the subject being far from exhausted, a request was moved that its farther consideration be resumed at the next Assembly, and the meeting adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BABIES.

To the Editor of the Monthly Register.

If it has been the experience of any of your readers, in their rounds among the poor families committed to their care, to come upon a home where the mother of a brood of little ones lies dying, and to face the fact that all of those children must at once be taken care of somehow, somewhere, and by somebody—by the Visitor herself, in fact, till other ways are found; and, casting about, have got one into this Home for Friendless Children, another into that Industrial School, and an older and more capable one under the roof of some kind family for a livelihood and nurture; and still there was left the *baby*—poor, little, weazen, half-alive baby! With what a glow of unutterable thankfulness they have turned to the HOME FOR INFANTS! the one sure and safe place of shelter for the tiny mite in all this city! What comfort, then, to

recall the picture of its clean nurseries, the cosy cribs white and pure, the corps of kindly nurses, guided by the faithful and efficient matron, and the forecast, the gentle oversight and fostering care the baby is made heir to by the merciful thoughtfulness of the women who have founded and conducted this needful refuge.

I am sure you will welcome to your columns a reminder of this unique and excellent institution. Through discouragements and anxiety a few devoted women have carried the enterprise to an assured success. What is needed now is to erect an infirmary for infectious diseases: a lot has been kindly offered providing sufficient funds are raised at once for the purpose.

What mothers and fathers, as they look upon their own bright and favored little ones—who of us, indeed, reflecting on our own helpless beginnings and the loving watchfulness that attended our baby life and brought us all the way to that late day when we could go alone, will not respond from the depths of our hearts to this appeal of the homeless babies?

We repudiate Herod's way, and would not even go round killing off the unpromising babies. Can we consistently leave them to the slim chances for virtue, health, or life, where they are, or consign them to that deadly ward in the Almshouse which the officials themselves would be glad to abolish if they knew where else to send them? Duty, satisfaction and policy coincide in this matter.

To the money value of a useful happy citizen, add the cost to the State or city of a miserable slave to vice or a hunted criminal, and you have the economical alternative offered to the taxpayer and the business man. He must invest in one of these two ways. It is a big slice of his capital for prolific evil, or his small slice for a good that will bring forth more good. Take care of the children of the State.

I understand the Managers of the Home for Infants will gladly welcome Visitors. The convenience, comfort and general excellence of its arrangements will be appreciated when seen. It is located on Westminster Avenue, between 46th and 47th Streets, and south of Lancaster Avenue. The Race and Vine Street and Lancaster Avenue cars pass within a short distance of the Institution.

Contributions of any amount can be sent to Mr. Clarence H. Clark, 35 South 3rd Street, or to any of the Managers.

(We can vouch for the HOME, that it offers an attractive Baby Show at all times, with the most sensible and charming surroundings, well worth a visit from all who love babies,—and who does not?)

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

THE NEWPORT (R. I.) CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY held its Second Annual Meeting December 7th, and its Annual Report shows much effective and intelligent work. It gives *no relief*, but its business is to direct the aims of others into channels where they will do good instead of harm; and it has never yet failed thus to obtain all the assistance needed. It has the cordial co-operation of all the public and associated charity in the city, and thus its labors are much more simplified than if it had to contend with the jealousy and uncharitable antagonism of relief societies. It saved to the City-out-door relief fund alone \$2,500 the past year.

Its success in treating cases may be thus quoted. At the close of the first year it had on its Register 220 cases, classified as follows:

Worthy poor, for whom relief was secured.	- - - - -	50
Persons needing only temporary relief,	- - - - -	20
“ who should have work instead of relief,	- - - - -	35
“ found not to need relief,	- - - - -	80
“ drunken and immoral, with and without families,	- - - - -	35
		220

At the close of the second year these *same cases* stood as follows:

Aged persons, ample permanent relief secured for them,	- - - - -	17
Sick “ “ relief till recovery or death,	- - - - -	13
Widows with families, amply relieved and provided with work,	- - - - -	10
Fathers “ “ at work but need supplemental help,	- - - - -	22
Sent to asylums,	- - - - -	4
Made self-supporting, and able to remain so if they choose, some are drinking men and still need friendly supervision,	- - - - -	123
Still vicious and drunken and families suffering,	- - - - -	3
Left the city,	- - - - -	19
Taken in charge by churches,	- - - - -	9
		220

Of the above, 28 have saved up money.

The applicants for relief to December 1st were but *one-third* of the number of the first year. Thus the figures show that the worthy poor have been well cared for; homes have been bettered, characters improved, pauperism has been checked and thrift has been inculcated.

Among the measures adopted to elevate the poor is a “Saving Society,” which collected over \$690 from house to house, on appointed days, by lady visitors; 18 families laid by more than they received in relief the previous winter. Another measure is a “Primary School for Household Work,” where girls of 12 and under are instructed after the Kindergarten style, in such arts as will make them better wives, mothers and servants than those of the present day.

But carpers exist also in Newport. The report says: “Persons who take a superficial view of our work, complain that we are hard or severe; when we have told them that some favored object of their kindness did not need relief, or would be better off without it, they have thought we were trying to stop the work of Charity. Far, far from that! We are calling you to a higher Charity—the hardest, the greatest of all—the Charity which *gives yourselves*. * * The assistance we ask of you is not so much your money as yourselves—your brains, your opportunities, your strength and knowledge and joy of life. We wish to draw the rich households and the poor households closer together. * * Money can often be wisely used, sometimes in gifts that make the home brighter and more encouraging, but *never* as an easy and comfortable thing for yourselves, taking the place of the harder and more self-denying gifts of thought, and time, and personal effort.”

THE NEW YORK CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY

Still maintains its grand and successful exertions in Child-Saving work. We have only room for the bare figures of the past year, and we must leave the imagination to work out the indefatigable labors indicated, and the beneficent results involved. It will be a grand day for Philadelphia when there shall be here inaugurated a similar enterprise for converting into useful citizens the boys and girls who are developing into incipient paupers and criminals in our slums. It is not yet sufficiently realized that it is cheaper to save a child than to support and guard a criminal.

The Society in question has 6 lodging-houses, in which, last year, 13,463 different boys and girls had 252,327 meals and 180,527 lodgings. In its 21 Day and 11 Evening Schools

9,662 children were taught and partly clothed and fed;
3,764 were sent to homes, chiefly in the West;
2,384 were cared for in sickness;
3,084 were sent to its “Seaside Home”;
531 girls were taught in its “Industrial Schools”;
\$8,601.06 were deposited in its Penny Savings Banks.

The total number of different children under its care during the year was 29,757.

A single marvellous item reveals the fidelity and thoroughness of the care exercised in all the Society's work:—“Among 170,773 boys who have been, during the past 27 years, in the News'-Boys' Lodging-house, there has been *no case* of contagious or ‘foul air’ disease, not even ophthalmia.” We have every reason to believe that this careful supervision of their physical well-being is a fair index of that exercised for their moral and spiritual welfare.

CAREFUL INVESTIGATION.

The Glasgow Charity Organization Society thus speaks on this subject in its report for 1880:

In last year's Report it was stated that, “without this (investigation) the help given would in many cases only be a premium on drunkenness, and the means of enabling many to carry on their self-destroying career. A very sad example of this kind has just come under the notice of the Council. Four sisters, once in a respectable position in life, took to drink. In need of money, they solicited charity and got it, but instead of the money doing them any good, it unhappily proved most injurious and disastrous, for in the space of six weeks they all died, victims of intemperance. If a little inquiry had been made before giving anything, the probability is that this sad end might have been averted.”

Much of the so-called investigation of the day is so superficial that it contents itself with simply asking if “need” exists, without the slightest reference to the causes of the need, the tendencies of the applicants, or the probable effect of the proposed relief. Job would have called such “searching out” a sham.

PEABODY DONATION FUND.

The Trustees of the Peabody Buildings (London) have sent us their report for 1880, and the particulars will be of interest to our readers.

The total fund on the 31st Dec. was . . . \$3,753,485 75
 Of which was in buildings, &c. 2,970,987 58
 And in cash on hand and securities . . . 782,498 17

Their buildings contain 2,355 separate dwellings (comprising 5,170 rooms, exclusive of bath-rooms and laundries), occupied by 9,899 individuals. The death-rate last year was 19.71 per 1,000, which is 2.49 below the average of all London for the same period. The average weekly earnings of the head of each family at the end of the year was \$5.84, and the average rent of each dwelling was \$1.09, including in all cases free use of water, laundries, sculleries, and bath-rooms. All of these sums are at the rate of \$5.00 per £ sterling.

NOTES.

ABUNDANT WORK FOR WOMEN.

A bright, sensible farmer's wife, living near a Connecticut city, writes to *Good Company* all about the hard work devolving upon her which she can find no servant to share, although she offers a good home and handsome wages to any of the thousands of women constantly reported as pining and stitching away their lives in city attics and tenements. The one drop too much was, when she read in a June *Harper* the article on "Working Women in New York": Then she was so mad she sat right down on the kitchen-floor and cried, and (when her tears permitted) she dashed off these suggestive words:

"To read of all of those thousands of women, stifled, poisoned, choked and starved in New York, and not one could I get to be head-lady in my kitchen! I don't suppose you have any idea of the humble deference we farmers' wives pay to our help. How I envy them! If there is any hard or dirty drudgery, the mistress is expected to do it, and leave the light and pleasant work for the girl. She not only sits in the parlor and eats at the table, but if the table is to be waited on she is not the one to do it. The mistress gets up and gets the breakfast and does the early work, and the girl [you must never say *servant*] comes down in time to eat it and wash up the dishes. If there is a Fourth of July, or a Sunday-school picnic, or any merry-making, it is the girl who goes as a matter of course, and her employer stays at home.

"In the face of all these things who can expect me to feel very badly, when I read these dreadful descriptions of the working-women in New York? All over the land there are pleasant country homes, with plenty of good food and fresh air, and good wages for comparatively light work, that are suffering for the want of these women; and yet there they stay and starve and die and suffer abuse and privation and perhaps insult, and 'can't go into the country.'

"Will I undertake to specify exactly what are the homes I mean, and and provide places for poor women, if some one will let me know of them? No, I won't! I have about all I can attend to without opening an intelligence office. But if some of these benevolent people of wealth, opportunity and leisure, who get up decorative art-rooms and help women to paint candles, or protective re-unions, that brow-beat ninety cents a week, or whatever it is, from rascally employers—if some of these active people will only set themselves to work to coax these women out of lingering starvation in the city, to health and plenty in the country, thousands of overworked wives and mothers will thank them. The thing that made me the maddest in that article in *Harper's* was, where the writer said there were only three industries open to working women, and left out entirely the department of household service, in which there is always abundant food and air, wholesome exercise, good and sure return in money, and a demand that is eager, anxious and far exceeding the supply; and I did not like the omission any better because it just reflects the existing state of things. What is the bar that shuts out thousands of starving, suffering women, from this abundant pasture? Is there some hidden *lex non scripta* [yes! I studied Latin and French too, and a dozen other useless things when I was a school-girl!] which has decreed that this rich harvest shall be reaped by foreigners alone, and that American women shall sew themselves to death before they will be servants?

"If that last word is the secret barrier, if women like tyranny and brutality from shopmen and foremen, better than the anxious deference of a mistress—if they choose to suffer insult, starvation, disease and death, before being called *servants*, then (in the name of Him who 'took upon Him the form of a servant') let them starve. I can give them only such pity as we bestow on those who wilfully destroy themselves."

We have often urged, and some of our Superintendents, Visitors and Directors constantly have in mind, the desirability of inducing the starving, ill-paid city sewing-women to accept country homes of the kind indicated above, and some such homes have been provided. This resource offers a practical solution to many a case of distress through insufficient wages, or lack of work.

CASES.

One who looks over the reports and correspondence which come into the Central Office from the Ward Superintendents and Visitors will be likely to experience a variety of sensations—a mingling of compassion and gratification with indignation and disgust. The phases of poverty are as various as its causes, and the new method of charity implies a careful study of each case by itself—as a physician studies each case of disease—with a view to deal with it on its merits.

Instances are constantly reported in which a little timely aid, cautiously given and always accompanied with an appeal to self-respect, has prevented the applicant from entering on a life of beggary. For example, Dr. Jefferis, of the 9th Ward, reports:

Case No. 69—A man, with his wife and child and an old mother, borne down by misfortune, and at last losing heart. Their most pressing necessities were relieved, then they were urged and helped to find employment. Now they earn \$48 per month.

Case No. 70—During the coldest weather a woman was found in a small, bare garret, reduced by sickness to extreme want, with no means of cooking her scanty food but a small oil lamp, no pillow at night but the waterproof she wore by day, while to keep off the dreadful cold even in bed she hugged a cat to her breast. Blankets and other necessities were supplied, and with proper care and comfort she is again able to work. She is a good and willing seamstress, and it will be a true charity to send her employment. (Office, 8th and 9th Wards, 1534 Sansom Street.)

Case No. 71—In the 5th Ward a family was brought to extreme poverty by the discouraged and intemperate father. Along with help for pressing needs there was continuous and untiring encouragement, and the man is now filling a position which enables him to support his family without farther aid.

But applicants of a very different class constantly appear to justify the Society's policy of careful investigation.

Case No. 72, 15th Ward—A well-dressed widow, wearing kid gloves, etc., was sent to the office by a lady living on one of our best streets, with a note highly recommending her. Her earnings, by housework, it came out in the conversation, were \$1.87 per week, and an unmarried son brought in \$8.00 more. The two made up the family. She also belonged to four beneficial societies. Being asked her object in applying when not destitute, she thought relief was given to respectable widow women." Verdict: "Not requiring relief."

Case No. 73, 19th Ward—How habits of leaning on the public cling.—An old lady asks for coal, although living with a married daughter, and the family able to indulge in luxuries. She feels confident it is somebody's duty to make her a present of the coal because she has had coal from the Guardians of the Poor for the last thirty years.

Then we have the other kind, where the distress is real, and the Society is ready for the emergency.

Case No. 74, 13th Ward—What alms could not do.—A family, of man, wife, daughter of 14 and baby. When the baby was born, a year ago, the mother was quite insane, and soon became violently so. Taken to the department for the insane at Blockley, the patient improved, and after two or three months the husband took her out against the advice of the physician in charge. She proved incapable of taking charge of the child, and it was found by our ladies lying in a loathsome plight on a piece of old carpet. The mother had been tenderly reared, and her brain trouble is supposed to have been caused by the father's intemperate habits. Growing worse she got out of the house one bitter cold night, and was found in the station house next morning. Admission was got for her to the Norristown Hospital for the Insane, and the Ward Superintendent took her there. Meantime the man was at home in a state of beastly intoxication, and the daughter, alarmed by his threats, came to the Ward Office for protection. With the aid of the Society to Protect Children, he was taken before a magistrate and committed. Our lady Visitors have provided a good home for the young girl, and the baby goes to the hospital for proper care.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....		
	3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25	.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.80	.85

THE following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

We want a CORRESPONDENT and a SOLICITOR in every city where there are friends of Organized or Associated Charity.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 7. }
WHOLE NO. 19. }

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 15, 1881.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Samuel G. King (*ex-officio*)

WARD.	VICE-PRESIDENTS.	WARD.
3. A. C. Deakne, M.D.,	11. J. Christian Miller,	22. Jabez Gates,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,	12. W. Fred. Snyder,	23. Samuel Bolton,
5. Wm. S. Price,	13. Jas. V. Watson,	27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
6. Thomas M. Seeds,	14. Henry M. Laing,	28. John G. Williams,
7. R. C. McMurtrie,	15. Geo. Burnham,	29. Geo. W. Simons,
8. Alexander Brown,	16. Isaac A. Sheppard,	30. A. A. Catanach,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,	19. A. H. Overholt,	31. Robert Mair.
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,	20. Wm. Y. Colladay,	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)	A. C. Deakne, M.D.,	Josiah R. Sypher,
Joshua L. Bailly (V. Pres.)	Nelson F. Evans,	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Rev. Chas. G. Ames,	Philip C. Garrett,	Geo. N. Torrence,
John H. Atwood,	Thos. C. Hand, jr.,	Albert B. Williams,
Rudolph Blankenburg,	Thos. S. Harrison,	Robt. N. Willson.
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,	Samuel Huston,	
H. T. Child, M.D.,		

MEETINGS UNTIL MAY 15TH.

Monday,	April	25,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	May	2,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Tuesday,	May	3,	3 P. M., Women's General Conference.†
Friday,	May	6,	5 P. M., Assembly Com. of Arrangements.*
Monday,	May	9,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

SUMMER CHARITY.

Are not the opportunities to bestow the wise-t, most effective and most lasting charity upon the poor lavishly wasted by the suspension of benevolent work during the summer; and does it not behoove each Ward Association to make every effort to prevent such a misfortune? Is not the economy of such suspension akin to that of the man who "saved his cider at the spigot while it ran out of the bung?" Faithful work in a single Ward during the summer of 1879 saved \$300 a month to the treasury of the Association during the succeeding winter, and lifted more than 100 families from want into independence. A similar record is possible in every other Ward.

Some of our most earnest and intelligent friends have besought our Board of Directors to move in this matter, and a circular has been recently addressed by the Central Committee on Ward Associations to each of the Boards of Directors of the Associations, to the following effect:—

"While the need of actual relief declines greatly as the spring advances it is the prevailing opinion of the active workers that the Ward offices ought to be kept open through the year, and that the work cannot be discontinued without serious detriment. In confirmation of this view the Board urges the following considerations:

1. The habits of industry and of saving, by which alone the dependent poor can be rescued from beggary, can best be induced during the summer. Then employment is more abundant, nature is more genial, and the pain and disability of actual suffering are least felt. It is thought that much of the usual winter outlay for relief can be rendered needless by such a use of the summer opportunity.

2. The cases of sickness and suffering are too numerous to be left to private charity; and the lives of many children can be saved by friendly offices, and promoting cleanliness and other sanitary conditions.

3. During the summer it is always possible to help forward various plans for giving the children and the invalid poor temporary access to the country; and our Ward offices may well be offered as recruiting stations for these beautiful charities.

4. Much of the influence gained during the winter may be lost during the summer if our friendly relations with the poor suffer a long suspension. This is especially true where persons and families are only partly reformed, and still need to be encouraged in their better resolutions. Our best work ravel out if we drop the threads.

5. Since the causes and evils of pauperism continue through all seasons, we cannot hope to win and keep the confidence of the public, nor prevent serious misunderstanding of the nature and spirit of true charity, if that work is intermitted for more than half the year.

6. Experience testifies to the usefulness of summer work. The Germantown Relief Society, which has been in operation seven years, was at first inactive from April to December; but since 1877 it has kept an open office and continued its general work, with due adaptation, the year round. Many families, who were once a chronic burden, have been induced to save money, and the total expenditure has been greatly reduced. One of the wisest and most active workers was asked, 'What do you gain by keeping open through the summer?' The answer was: 'Everything! Our whole work is improved. To go back to the old way would cripple all our operations.' The experience of other Wards confirms the same conclusion. Even if for a time some additional expense should be required no money could be put to better use than by making our work continuous, with such modifications during summer as may promise most usefulness; and, in the long run, we believe such will prove the truest economy."

CO-OPERATION OF THE POLICE.

It has often been urged upon our Ward Associations to avail themselves more freely of the cordially proffered aid of our Police. The "Force" have assured us over and over again, collectively and individually, from the Mayor and Chief to the patrolmen, of their readiness to aid our Society and its branches in every practicable and legal way, and it only remains for each Ward Committee of "Correspondence and Co-operation" to follow up and secure the practical benefits so freely offered. The familiarity of the police with every quarter of the city, and especially their necessary acquaintance with the persons and the resorts of the vicious, can be of immense advantage to every Association both in discovering the abodes of worthy and respectable destitution and in exposing the idle and profligate. No new family moves into any part of any ward but the police know within 24 hours its character and something of its circumstances. The consideration of a proper application of charitable trust funds should lead the Associations to consult the police in every case, in the interests both of humanity and economy.

The police of any district will take the lists of our Ward Associations and scrutinize them and exchange information, and can give some reliable information regarding nearly every applying family; although, of course, this, as well as *all other* information, must be weighed judicially and compared carefully with that from other sources. In certain localities lists of applicants have been referred by the Central Office to the lieutenant of the proper district, and he has placed duplicates in the hands of each of the day and night patrol, unknown to each other, and returned their joint and separate reports, throwing much additional light upon the gleanings of the Visitors and officers.

The 5th Ward Association have recently carried this matter into practical effect by publishing the following notice in the shape of a card, which is circulated throughout the Ward among all concerned:—

CO-OPERATION OF THE FIFTH WARD RELIEF ASSOCIATION WITH THE POLICE FORCE UNDER LIEUT. RICE FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF BEGGING IN THE WARD LIMITS.

"Tickets of investigation will be furnished by the Relief Association to the police officers.

"The officers are requested to refer all men, women and children found begging, and beggars under pretext of peddling, to the Relief Office (in the Soup House), 338 Griscom street.

"Their cases will be investigated, and, if approved, a certificate will be given by the Relief Association permitting their continuance on the streets.

"Officers are requested to cause all those without such certificate to leave the streets of the Ward, under penalty of arrest on their return.

"The object to be attained through this co-operation with the police officers is to relieve the Ward of all professional beggars.

"Provision will be made by the Relief Committee in any proper case."

Upon this arrangement with Lieut. Rice, Chief Givin makes endorsement as follows:—

"March 10th, 1881.

"Respectfully forwarded approved. I heartily endorse and concur in your plan of operations, and assure to your Association all the assistance you may desire of the policemen of the 3rd District, under command of Lieut. Rice.

(Signed) SAMUEL I. GIVIN,
Chief of Police."

The provision concerning certificates "permitting" street begging may need to be reconsidered; but we commend the substance of this arrangement to other Ward Associations with the hope that the example may be very generally followed. Since the above was written an applicant has come to the Central Office from a point two miles distant, sent by a policeman, who was not aware that the Ward from which the applicant travelled maintained an office for the care of the poor. The police force can be of great assistance to the Associations and to the poor, and the Associations equally so to the Officers by intelligent co-operation.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.—A BEGINNING.

The efforts of the past two years to introduce systems of Industrial Education, which this Society has largely stimulated, have resulted in another success. On the 26th of March was opened in this city a Normal School of Industrial and Decorative Art, at which from 40 to 50 female teachers of the public schools commenced preparing themselves to give this form of instruction to the children under their charge. The members of the class were selected for their special aptness and disposition for manual work, and will receive lessons in such industrial arts, or "minor arts," as they are called, as can be applied to matters of decoration, and can be made most quickly remunerative by girls and boys and women. The instruction is superintended by Mr. Chas. Godfrey Leland and Prof. W. H. Packer, under the authority of the "Committee on Art and Industrial Schools" of the Board of Education. The pupils will be taught wood-carving, simple tile-painting for practical use, leather-work, modeling in clay, ornamental needlework, and such other work for which the scholars may show an aptness. Lessons are given at present on Wednes-

day and Saturday evenings in the Hollingsworth School, Locust street, above Broad, where two rooms have been fitted up for the purpose. The lessons here given will doubtless go far to ennoble handiwork in the minds of the children, and to prepare them for workshops, factories and a higher grade of art schools. The opening exercises consisted of an address by Mr. Chas. Godfrey Leland upon the advantages of Industrial Education, and of an illustrated lesson by Mr. Edward A. Spring, the sculptor, upon modeling in clay. Although this experiment will not benefit those poor children who possess little or no talent for ornamental work, it is a long step in the right direction, and must lead to other enterprises for those whose abilities are more homely and practical.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

Although our subscription list has increased rapidly since our enlargement to eight pages in November last, we are yet far from a self-supporting position. The season is close at hand when our subscriptions nearly ceased during the first year. The sad, but pernicious, idea is still largely prevalent that the poor have only bodily wants, and those only during the winter, to be cared for by charity, and as the inclement seasons pass away, benevolent impulses are weakened or put to sleep till another winter; and thus also the interest in even the study of those social problems whose solution may lift the poor out of their penury is suspended. Now the summer offers rare opportunities to consider carefully and conscientiously these problems, and much good seed can then be sown which will produce fruit in the near future.

We venture then to solicit from our friends the slight exertion involved for each to procure at least *one additional* subscriber for us. That done our future would be secure. Every present subscriber must have many acquaintances who would be thankful to know of a paper devoted exclusively to the study of charitable topics; some of whom would gladly subscribe if offered the opportunity. If any will send us names of those who they think would be interested in the paper, we will cheerfully send sample copies to them. We make the personal request to every reader that he or she will help us to double our subscription list within the next month by the method indicated.

THE BROOKLYN BUREAU OF CHARITIES

held a public conference on the 31st ult., which indicates a growing appreciation that humanity and civic welfare alike demand that every city should carefully organize its charitable agencies. We can only name the subjects and speakers, and refer our readers to the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, of April 1st, for the full text of the papers read. The topics were:—"The Care of the Improvident Poor," by Rev. Father McCarty; "Hopelessness of Isolated Efforts to Diminish Pauperism," by Andrew McLean; "Possibilities of Organized Charities," by Albert A. Day; "Value of Organization to the Churches," by Rev. Dr. Chas. H. Hall; "Relation of the Commissioners of Charity to the Poor," by Joseph Short, Jr.; "Fixed Principles in Administration of Charity," by Rev. Dr. James M. Buckley; "Pauperism and the Police," by General James Jourdan; "Medical Aspect of Relief Work," by Dr. Jos. H. Raymond; and "The Immediate Duty of Every City to Organize its Charities," by Robt. Treat Paine, Jr., of Boston.

STREET CLEANING.

We have received from the French Government, through the Hon. E. F. Noyes, U. S. Minister at Paris, complete information concerning the systems of cleaning and sprinkling the public streets and of disposing of the sweepings, in Paris, Bordeaux, Brest, Havre, Lille, Marseilles and other leading cities in France, (thirty-three towns in all,) including the details of equipment, personal service, cost, regulations etc.

The same information has also been received from the Municipal Governments of Berlin, Brussels and The Hague.

These details have been gathered for the use of our Committee on Suppressing Mendicancy, in their efforts to make serviceable the unused labor of those who are supported by the public in our City Institutions: not only for the benefit of the tax-payers, but also for the reformatory influence of honest and remunerative work upon the vicious idlers in the institutions in question.

BEGGING LETTERS.

Our readers in this city are requested to send to this office, all the begging letters received by them from strangers, and to ask their friends to do the same. There are several shrewd and skillful beggars of this class

in Philadelphia, who extract large sums yearly from benevolent and wealthy persons, and live in inglorious ease (and some in luxury) upon those who are unaware that they are simply supporting idleness and deception. Many of these suppliants are well known to us, and the circumstances of all such letter writers will receive prompt, thorough and kind examination at our hands. We have already been of material service to some of our friends in protecting them from this species of imposition.

THRIFT.—France has recognized the need of beginning with the children to inculcate habits of economy and thrift (for lack of which in our working-classes we have so much poverty and pauperism) and has inaugurated savings banks in her public schools. This is the most practical and efficient method of planting these essential virtues in a community, and more likely to be successful than to expect them to grow from home training. Some people object that it makes the children mean and penurious. Of course such extremes are possible, but the average American child is in far more danger of being struck by lightning. Although but recently established, the French schools have already opened more than 10,000 banks, with deposits of over a million dollars.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

MARCH MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

A communication was received concerning the summer work of the Associations and the great need of keeping the Ward offices open uninterruptedly, as necessary to the efficiency of the Society. The subject was referred to the Committee on Ward Associations for needed action.

Dr. Isaac Ray* and Wm. Chapin, Esq., were elected honorary members of the Society.

Appropriations were reported of \$100 each to the 3d, 4th, 6th, and 11th Ward Associations. The money for these grants was kindly supplied by the 8th Ward Association. Reports were also received that the recent concerts by the 16th and 19th Ward Associations resulted in a profit of \$225 to \$250 to each, and that the occasions were improved by the utterance of brief and instructive speeches upon the advantages of Organized Charity.

A vote of thanks to Hon. Geo. L. Harrison was cordially adopted for his courtesy in providing a suitable glass case for the proper display of the specimens of work from the Paris Industrial and Apprentice Schools, which he has deposited in our custody.

Measures were adopted looking to securing the co-operation of the incoming City Government in means to overcome the prevalence of street begging and the removal of all professional beggars from the streets.

(*We lament to record the decease of Dr. Ray within three weeks of his election. One of the last letters written by him was a cordial note of acceptance of honorary membership, coupled with assurances of his deep interest in the work and of his desires for its success. He was widely known as a careful and intelligent student in charitable science, particularly in the department of the insane poor.)

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR APRIL.

The regular Conference for this month was held in the usual Lecture Hall, 15th and Market, on the afternoon of the 5th inst., Mrs. R. E. C. Gillingham presiding, and Mrs. M. T. Gawthrop acting as secretary.

Thirteen Ward Reports were presented, from which we compile the following details:—Relief secured from private persons 3, from other Societies and Institutions 23, from churches 1, from relatives 1; permanent employment procured for 11, and temporary work for 49; medical aid supplied to 23, 1 family aided by a loan, and 2 families transported to other states; 2 persons signed the pledge, 5 adults were sent to hospitals, 2 placed in insane hospitals, 2 sent to House of Correction, and 8 to the Almshouse; children placed in schools 17, in home in country 1, in hospital 1. One ward Kitchen School was also opened.

A communication was read from the General Secretary, asking for full and accurate records from every Visitor of the number of visits made to families in their care, as well as those visits made in their interest to other parties. He suggested that it would be well to issue for next year an amended form of report including these and other desirable particulars.

On motion of Mrs. Wharton it was resolved that such a record should be kept, and that letters written in the interest of a family should be added also.

An invitation was read from the Silk Culture Association to the Visitors to attend the annual meeting of that society on the 19th inst.

Mrs. Unger, of the 14th Ward, asked the advice of the Conference in regard to a miserable old woman who sells matches in the Spring Garden Street Market as a cover for begging, and who, on being referred to her Ward, replies that there is no relief office there.

Mr. Kellogg explained the past difficulty of getting hold of such cases, on account of the lack of co-operation between the Police and the authorities of the Almshouse and the House of Correction, but we have the strongest hopes that the new Mayor will do all in his power to enforce the law in regard to vagrancy and like evils. The best plan would be to appeal to the Mayor by a formal written communication from the Ward Board, explaining the case. This would no doubt be responded to at once.

Mrs. R. Blankenburg, of the 9th Ward, reported that the need of Visitors had so diminished in that section that three or four women were able to care for all the families needing friendly oversight. The remaining Visitors had therefore virtually suspended work.

Mrs. Ames thought that if the surplus energy of some of the wards, as the 9th, where there was so little work, could be employed in the unorganized wards, it would be a great help to the whole Society.

Mrs. T. C. Hill, of the 29th Ward, thought the Associations were still too much of the nature of a relieving Society. It would be better if more time and attention were given to investigation and less to relief.

A Visitor of the 11th Ward thought great distress might result from the loss of time in seeking relief from other societies, but it was suggested that some simple form of relief could be given immediately, and then application could be made to other and relieving societies based upon carefully ascertained facts.

The Chair stated that the Buffalo Society was an investigating agency only, and did not give any relief, proving the practicability of the plan, which worked well in that city, but it was considered best when starting the Organized Charity in Philadelphia that some form of relief should accompany the investigation, under present peculiar local circumstances.

Mrs. F. B. Ames, of the 29th Ward, deprecated the use of so much money as was expended in present temporary relief, which might be applied to a more adequate and permanent form of assistance, such as Day Nurseries, Kindergartens, and finding permanent employment. There is but a limited amount of money to be spent in charity, and the better methods were therefore all the more desirable.

Mrs. S. I. Lesley said great patience was needed on the part of the Visitor, who must be willing to give her time cheerfully and not attach blame to the departments of the Association, or to other relieving societies if delays occurred.

Mrs. Child, of the 11th Ward, suggested if Visits were made on Sunday, more of the modes of life of the family could be learned than on any other day. Better food and clothes often appeared on that day.

A carefully prepared essay was read by Mrs. J. P. Mumford, of the 29th Ward, the subject of which was "Cold Pieces and their Relation to Social Economy." (We regret that plans to give this essay the widest possible currency, prevent our publishing it in full with this number—we hope to do so soon.)

Several Visitors congratulated Mrs. Mumford on the forcible manner in which she had presented this subject, and predicted that great benefit and profit would result from it if given to the public.

On motion, Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Lesley were appointed a committee to take charge of the publication of the paper.

Mrs. Wharton read a letter from a lady of St. Paul, Minnesota, in relation to the formation of a Charity Organization Society in that city, who a few months ago had attended one of our 13th Ward meetings with feelings rather opposed to the Society, but upon becoming interested and understanding its workings better, she became on her return home instrumental in starting a Society in her own city by the help of papers and pamphlets supplied from our own Central Office. The citizens feel as if their friends in Philadelphia really knew the needs of St. Paul.

Others reported correspondence with Meadville, Pa., Salem, N. J., and Baltimore, where Organized Charity was exciting public interest, and in one of which places (Salem) a Society had been formed.

Mrs. Knowlton, at the request of the President, made a few remarks on Silk Culture. Having lived in China twenty-five years, she had seen the mulberry trees shading her own home, and women and girls everywhere at work with the silk worms with great profit and success. In this country the movement has spread rapidly. Its object is to provide a source of employment to women and girls in their country homes, so that they will not flock to crowded cities to encounter so much misery and suffering.

Mrs. Unger, for the Silk Culture Association, called attention to the opening of the schools in May, and to the circular issued offering one

free scholarship to each Ward Association. She requested that the selection be made as soon as possible. Letters have been received from all parts of the country, particularly from the West and South. The people are willing to start the schools, but the Association cannot supply teachers equal to the demand. Although more properly agricultural, it is also adapted to city life. Ages may be from sixteen to thirty-five. These need not necessarily be on the Ward books—that is left to the discretion of the Wards. The more intelligent the girl, however, the better teacher she makes.

The Conference then adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting of the Assembly was held on Monday evening, 4th inst., Dr. H. Lenox Hodge presiding.

After reading the minutes of the March meeting, the Secretary, Mr. Thos. C. Hand, Jr., read a Report from the Special Committee, composed of Hon. Geo. L. Harrison, Miss Pendleton and Mr. James S. Whitney, chosen at the last meeting to consider the recommendations, in Miss Pendleton's paper, of an association for the furtherance of wise methods of Public Instruction.

THE REPORT

of the Committee stated that they had given the question that thoughtful consideration which its importance deserves. The able report read at the last meeting rendered it unnecessary to argue the question. Perhaps there never was a question of public concern more ripe for presentation and acceptance.

The necessity of education, as an abstract proposition, is universally admitted; the importance of adding instruction in industrial pursuits to the present system, is also recognized wherever it is clearly understood. And that there is in our law a provision to regard education as a State necessity, and so to constrain its acceptance by all who are capable of receiving it, is a point fully proved by the undisputed fact that education, in its broader meaning, promotes and conserves those better motives and higher aims, in the members of a community, which are necessary to the perpetuation of a good government and the well-being of its citizens.

This brief report is believed to be sufficient for the occasion. It is intended to favor Universal Education, which can only be secured by some sort of constraining influences with those who are unwilling of themselves to receive it, or who are opposed by others. It is intended to recommend that education in industrial pursuits be added to the other branches which are now taught by the public schools. In regard to the neglected children of this community, the Committee suggest the advisability of giving special heed to the condition of ignorance, idleness and inaptitude for every useful pursuit, and to the vice and crime in which these children exist, for whom, it is apparent, no adequate means of education is provided; who indisputably comprise that class who threaten, in the future, as they have fulfilled in the past, the greatest harm to the State; and who, if education, in its true meaning, be charged with reforming power, should be the foremost to be subjected to its ameliorating influences.

With these views, now humbly submitted, and under a resolution of this Assembly which encouraged such action, the Committee have taken measures to form an Association for the purposes indicated in this Report, and they invoke from all who take part in this important work such appreciation of its value, and such earnestness of effort to realize results, as will accomplish the full purpose without unnecessary delay.

On motion of Mr. Whitney, the Report was accepted and the Committee discharged. The Chair then announced the topic of the evening—continued from last month—to be

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

J. Bellangee Cox, Esq., representing the LINCOLN INSTITUTION and Educational Home, found that Industrial Education is as old as the Commonwealth. We find in a charter of Wm. Penn a stipulation that every child should be taught something by which he could gain a livelihood. The apprentice system falling latterly into general decay and disuse, together with the bad influence of the High School and Girls' Normal School in turning out troops of useless young persons to live by their wits—educating the head rather than the hand—we are brought to a serious pass. The evil must be remedied, and the present discussion will help towards that result.

What do we mean by industrial education? If only the training of the hand to some craft, as distinguished from professional and other occupations, it is very narrow. If we mean co-education of head and hands—better; but it should go still further by educating hands and head together, with a view to aid a boy to gain a livelihood.

There are always difficulties in the way of educating boys to make a practical living. Experience is not always encouraging. A boy is sent to some person to learn a trade; great pains taken to get him the privilege; but he doesn't follow it up. The experience of Girard College has been sometimes lamentable and its Managers will no doubt be very glad to know of means to improve it. Our theorizing about Industrial Education will be greatly helped by contemplating practical examples of it in our midst, to one of which I call attention; one, to be sure, in which not many trades are taught, simply because trades unions and machinery have rendered that almost impossible; but where boys are taught from experience actual business thoughts, rules and habits, and fitted to earn their own living when they attain lawful age; I refer to the Lincoln Institution, which for sixteen years has maintained a family of about one hundred boys, who during the day are employed at such work as can be found for them, and at night receive an hour and a half of instruction in the courses of a plain English education. The work does not hurt them. Contact with the world sharpens their wits, and their employments show them the desirability of education. They make better progress in their studies than is made by the average boys in good day schools.

Mr. Amos Bonsall, for the HOUSE OF REFUGE, said: "We have a very old institution. With pardonable pride I hold in my hand its 53d Annual Report, and in that time it has never retrograded, but has constantly improved in the care of our street waifs—helpless ones, not from their own fault, but that of those who should have taken care of them. The number of children in the institution has grown with the growth of the city. It is known to but very few of the public of Philadelphia, although they are always welcome. Within ten years the whole system of the interior has changed. The walls give the appearance of a prison, but we try to show the boys that these walls are not so much to keep them in, as to keep bad associations and temptations out, and we hope by and by to have it removed to the country, where walls will not be needed. [Hearty applause.] As far as possible our boys are treated as the boys of Girard College and the Lincoln Home, with careful regard to their happiness as well as improvement. The time given to work daily is 7 hours; recreation, 3 hours; school, 3 hours; meals, 1½ hours; devotions, ½ hour, and sleep, 9 hours. It is declared in the By-Laws that 'The introduction of labor into the House of Refuge shall be regarded principally with reference to the moral benefits, rather than any pecuniary advantage to be derived from it; and preference shall be given to those trades, the knowledge of which may enable the inmates to earn their subsistence on their discharge.' The variety of work for boys includes shoemaking, tailoring, cane work, brushmaking and hosiery. The bakery, the engineer's department and the kitchen employ two or three boys each. In the shoe shop all the shoes used in the house are made and mended, but no shoes are made for sale. The girls, besides making and mending clothing, washing, ironing, sewing, cooking and other domestic industry, have work in two hosiery shops.

"We have four different grades, according to age and progress in crime," and a Prefect or teacher is always with them. Those of hardened character, as those convicted of larceny, are not put with those whose parents put them in for 'incurability.' The boys are also taught cleanliness, self-respect and all the amenities necessary to good government in the family and home. We permit no hints of the former life of the boys to appear, and nothing to interfere with the religious preferences of the parents; but moral principles are inculcated, and clergy of all denominations are admitted.

"Our reports show 80 per cent. lifted upon their feet and established in respectability. I would say at least 75 per cent. were rescued."

Mrs. E. W. Hutter, President of the NORTHERN HOME FOR FRIENDLESS CHILDREN, gave an interesting account of the industrial training pursued in that institution, which received its first child in 1853. The only question for admission is, "Is the child friendless and in need of a home?" To this time they have received into the Home and into the "Associated Institute for Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans," which is united with it, over 6,000 children.

After describing their plans for Kindergarten and advanced mental education, she stated that Industrial Teaching was a matter of special interest in which the Managers are desirous to improve. Our girls are taught thoroughly washing, ironing, baking, cooking, scrubbing, dish-washing, setting of table, dusting and cleaning, sewing by hand and by machine; they make garments of all kinds—their own clothing entirely. They excel in button-holes, make the boys' shirts, mend and darn. Our girls are so well inducted into the mysteries of housekeeping that families find them desirable help, and they are fitted to make excellent wives.

For our boys we have a shoe shop, with an experienced head; a number of boys work in the bakery, and their experience enables them to secure good wages as journeyman bakers after leaving us.

The Northern Home was the only benevolent institution that received a diploma and certificate at the Centennial International Exhibition in 1876. One was awarded us for educational and industrial work done by the Northern Home children; another for the kindergarten school; and a third for educational and industrial work done by Soldiers' orphans. We are not satisfied with what we have done, but we desire to see industrial training brought nearer to perfection in this country.

We are anxious to build on our large grounds workshops, where skilled mechanics may instruct our children, and to connect with the Home farms where they may learn to be good farmers. These men of hard and useful work are the bone and sinew of the land.

The importance of industrial training to society at large cannot be overestimated. In that wonderful book, "Dangerous Classes in New York," Charles Loring Brace tells of his asking criminals in different prisons whether they had learned a trade, and the common reply being "If I had learned a trade I should not be here!" I therefore desire that not only the Northern Home and others, but that our State shall build industrial schools for our young men and boys, to train them under skillful teachers and practical workmen. Further than this: I hold that our girls should be trained in type-setting and wood-engraving, and that telegraphing should be entirely done by girls. The specimens of carving in the women's department at the Centennial should not be forgotten when we are talking of industrial education.

Idleness is a crime. Every man, woman and child should have their time fully and usefully employed. "An idle brain is the devil's workshop." Let us all work in one direction—to make our boys and girls useful, economical and industrious citizens, and when they have left our care they can look back with as much pride as do the cadets of Annapolis or West Point. If it is honorable in these to become the nation's defenders by learning the arts of war, it is not less worthy in the others to have strengthened the pillars of the State by learning the arts of thrift and of peace.

Mr. James S. Whitney, a former member of the Board of Education, spoke of industrial education specially as connected with the Society for Organizing Charity. All our children cannot be so fortunate as to have committed some offense or otherwise to be entitled to the benefits of the House of Refuge or the Lincoln Institution. Among all classes there are many parents who care very little for the training of their children. This is a practical society, conceived in the widest spirit of charity. It does not give alms, but in the spirit of true communism it assists men to uplift themselves, and takes care of a class who cannot take care of themselves. In this aspect it is the business of this society to endeavour to prevent—our whole business is preventive—and a chief prevention is that the mass of the children in the public schools should be taught to do something with their hands. The public schools are censured for faults for which they are not accountable. *The authorities are ourselves.* The public schools are only one of the broadest exemplifications of the state of opinion among the people. In Boston it is said that only those too stupid to go to public schools go to private schools. The public schools there are at the highest standard in the country, and we should do our best to put our schools up to a like standard. It is a very healthful sign that so many people are considering and discussing this question.

Miss Fannie M. Jackson, principal of the Institute for Colored Youths, said: I have not the happiness to stand here as the representative of an industrial school, but I am glad I can speak of our great wish and need of industrial education. We must for some time be the laboring class in this country. Education is defined as something that must strengthen, and the whole trinity—hand, heart and brain—must be educated together. This is a very important matter to us on account of the prejudice against taking colored men into trades unions and shops. A boy has ambition, and knows what he can do, but can't do it because his fellow-workmen have not attained to the altitude of freedom from such prejudices. One of the discoveries our people made when they got their freedom was that they were sadly in lack of brains! We should have been a wonderful people if, after 250 years of oppression, suppression, repression and depression of mental power, we could take our places as lawyers, doctors and teachers. It is for the good of society that we should get the right man into the right place always, let it be blacking boots or anything else, so that he does well whatever nature has decreed him to do. The great thing that the people of the South needed was an *excellent English education.*

The places are exceedingly rare where a colored youth can find employment. Not in printing offices, not in telegraphy, not in workshops;

not in business, for we have no capital, no influence. Various universities and colleges have been opened to them since the war, and some have got into political places. But political positions are the least desirable places to which they can be attracted. There has been a little cutting off the national nose to spite the personal face, perhaps, in this treatment of the colored youth. You cannot prevent a man from doing a thing he is fitted to do without doing a great wrong. The new and better South will not be born of political parties, but of just this thing which the Society discusses to-night. The Northern States owe it to the South to assist in educating the youth in the right way. When we have boys educated at farming and other industries, and send them down South, the real reconstruction will be brought about.

I joyfully acknowledge the aid of some of the ladies of this Society in establishing two kindergartens for our people—the only ones in the country, I believe.

Mr. Charles Godfrey Leland said that industrial education was being taken up here with greater thoroughness than in any city in the world, and if this reform is carried out *it will be in a great degree due to this Society.* It is the most interesting reform of the day, and means everything great in the future for the working classes. I know what is doing in France, England, Belgium, etc., and Philadelphia is carrying on a reform in her schools and industrial homes that is not going on in any part of the world. Industrial education is needed, because the boy, whose hands are trained, is developed to cleverness in everything else. Keeness of perception is inseparable from industrial education.

The school that was authorized by the School Board of Philadelphia for normal training (of teachers and pupils from the public schools only) has had three meetings, and is a great success. All kinds of industrial work will be attempted in time. We have begun with the decorative arts, but are willing to take up any other. The sudden influx of applicants in china painting has taxed our capacity, and we need help from any competent to instruct in it. There is such an interest that, instead of the 60 admitted, we might have nearly all the teachers and scholars of Philadelphia, and I hope arrangements will be made to accommodate them. I don't know why work was laid down as a curse. I have always found it the greatest blessing of my life. If we familiarize the hands of our young people with some useful work they will not think work disgraceful, and that a clerkship is more honorable. Teach youth that brains and genius enter into the simplest handwork and you do more than all the talk of politicians to dignify labor.

The House of Refuge and Lincoln Institution might introduce the decorative arts. I have recently been through several prisons and gathered many ideas. One prisoner presented me with a picture he had painted, and said that at first he almost went crazy for lack of suitable occupation. He excelled in engineering or architectural drawing. Another prisoner was a decorative artist. A greater variety and a higher class of work would be a blessing in the prisons, and teachers could be made of these more accomplished men. One Warden said the men would like to have work suited to them. Picking oakum or wool was neither profitable nor fit, as there was no thought in it. The idea is not utopian that the prisoners could be taught several arts, and especially the decorative arts.

If we succeed in the school now opened it is expected to extend the plan to all the schools in Philadelphia, with their 103,000 pupils.

Mr James L. Wright, of the 5th Ward, thought it was not true that the trades' unions have prevented boys learning trades. Not a boy has learned a trade for 25 years in Philadelphia but has been taught by trades' unionists. Masters do not know the trade themselves, and only parts of a trade are now taught to boys. If they spend three to five years at only a part, they then have not learned a trade. Not only the bogus doctor-factories, but the bogus mechanic-factories in Philadelphia ought to be broken up. Here is where some protection to labor is needed. The fine taste of workmanship is lost. Men of capital are often not judges of work. They look at it thus: "I got a certain piece done at so much. How much less can I get it done for?"

Mr. Thomas C. Hand, jr., spoke by request of the St. James' Industrial School. Established in 1873, it had done a great deal of good work since then. It is managed by volunteer ladies of the parish. The house is in charge of a matron and a teacher. Children are received at six years old, are taught in the kindergarten and also farther instructed in writing, arithmetic and geography. The school is specially industrial, sweeping, dusting, scrubbing, laundry work, cleaning windows, cooking, bread-making, dish-washing, sewing and mending receiving careful practice. Dinner is provided for all the children, in preparing which they do the chief work. After leaving the school the managers try to find places in families for the children; but many

parents oppose this, thinking household service dishonorable, and prefer to have them find work in the mills. Habits of cleanliness and industry are inculcated, and the parents, though at first suspicious, now appreciate the efforts made in the children's behalf.

The assembly then adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE BUFFALO CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

BUFFALO, APRIL 4, 1881.

MUNIFICENT ENDOWMENT.

At the opening of the Fitch Creche in this city in January, it was stated that the generous founder, Benjamin Fitch, Esq., of New York, contemplated a far more munificent gift to the poor of Buffalo, to be delivered in trust to the Charity Organization Society. Since then active steps have been taken toward carrying out Mr. Fitch's design. In order that the objects in view should be lastingly guarded by legal securities, the proceedings have been slow; but it is believed that soon the large property of Mr. Fitch in this city will be formally consecrated to the beneficent uses which he has humanely planned for it. Indeed, the generous giver has already endeavored to place the management and income of the property under the control of the intended trustees, pending the final transfer; but that has not seemed to be practicable.

The estate in question is valued at not less than \$150,000. A part of it is to be sold and the proceeds applied to the erection of a building for the various benevolent purposes contemplated, while the remainder shall be held as an endowment. The building is to include a hall in which lectures of an instructive character, and especially upon scientific subjects, shall be given freely or cheaply to working people. There is also to be a free reading room attached to a provident coffee room, where the attractions of a cup of good coffee or tea and a light repast at low prices, a newspaper, a magazine, a book, or an innocent game, with pleasant surroundings and well behaved company, may be set against the allurements of the beer saloons. The building is also designed to contain a provident soup-room, a provident dispensary, a temporary surgery or hospital for the prompt first treatment of injuries received by poor people or by helpless strangers, and a training school for domestic servants. In all the undertakings upon this foundation, the provident principles of the Charity Organization Society will be strictly adhered to. The aim will be to lend help, instruction, courage and good cheer to the unfortunate poor who are willing to help themselves, and to avoid by all possible means the debasement of common alms-giving.

The edifice, designs for which are under consideration, is intended to be in appearance quite worthy of its noble uses.

THE CRECHE.

The Creche is now fairly complete in all its appointments and well settled in its working. It is prepared to care for many more children than are brought to it; but the number is steadily increasing. The total number received since the opening to this time is 344. If all poor mothers in town, whose work takes them from home, could be brought to look in at the Creche nursery and play-rooms, as I did this morning, and see how happy, clean and well cared for their little ones may be during the day, they would surely all be eager to solicit the kindly shelter. But it takes time to make them appreciate an institution so wholly new.

OUT DOOR RELIEF.

In its general work during the past year the Charity Organization Society has labored under much discouragement. The present Overseer of the Poor for the city, unlike his predecessor, is not at all in sympathy with the efforts of the Society to diminish the pauperizing influences of the public charity which he dispenses. He either does not understand, or he is indifferent to the importance of the matter; perhaps both. No doubt he has a kindness of disposition that is easily moved by pitiful appeals, but he cannot or will not see that it becomes cruelty of the worst character when it contributes to the pauperizing of people who might be raised in self-respect by being put, with humane firmness, in the way towards maintaining themselves. His ear seems to be much more attentive to politicians, who are watchful for the vote which a vagrant can cast quite as potentially as an honest workingman, than he is to those who try to guide public charity in a straight channel to the true needs for which it is designed. He ignores the information which the Charity Organization Society places in his hands so far that he has persistently given support and relief in multitudes of cases which the careful investigations of the Society have proved to be unworthy, and where the result can only be to cultivate vice, laziness, profligacy and degradation.

A recent report made by the agent of the Society in Districts 1, 2 and

7 shows that out of \$18,992 given in out-door relief by the Poormaster within those districts, no less than \$5,609 was given against the representations of the Charity Organization Society. This has been done, too, in defiance of law, the expenditures of the department of the Overseer of the Poor having been carried last year largely beyond the liberal estimate provided for it, requiring special legislation to make good the deficiency. It may be hoped that such experiences will tend to create a public feeling in favor of providing ample agencies of private charity for all out-door relief to the suffering poor, and abolishing the whole system of official alms-giving, outside of asylums, hospitals and the like. But people in general are slow to see what deadly mischief there is in the breeding of chronic pauperism. Meantime, the Charity Organization Society must do much thankless work, sustained by the intelligent few and looked upon coldly by the many.

MAKING PAUPERS.

There are special exertions now being made to apply a "labor test" to all able-bodied recipients of public relief. Either in stone breaking, wood cutting or some wholesome employment, it is highly necessary that every man whose distress is want of work should be made to earn as wages what public relief he gets, rather than take it as a dole dropped into a beggar's idle hand. At the March meeting of the Charity Organization Society, Mr. Dormer read a most interesting paper on this subject, discussing it in the light of facts furnished by our experience the past winter with a great body of immigrant Poles. There were some seventy-five or a hundred families of these poor Poles who came to this city during the early weeks of winter, joining a colony of three thousand, perhaps, which has settled here before. Most of the new-comers arrived with no means of maintenance and almost without clothing and household effects. They were exceedingly helpless; labor was but scantily found for them; the suffering among them was necessarily great, and the mode in which it was officially relieved worked great moral mischief to these ignorant people. Says Mr. Dormer:

"These people at first asked for work. None was given. Instead we gave them alms without a *quid pro quo* of work, and we unmanned them. If some of them are now in training for paupers, as we have but too grave reasons to believe, the result is, pure and simple, a legitimate result of our own neglect of duty. If there was not humanity enough in us as individuals, there should at least have been wisdom enough in us as a municipality to aid them without demoralizing and pauperizing them. How easy, how practical, how manly would have been our aid had we, as this Society suggested, set them to work in some of our public departments or otherwise made employment and got our meed of work for our dole of official bread. We should then have made the men more manly, and had, as I am prepared to substantiate, less paupers among our future citizens. Between the apathy of the citizens and the unwisdom of the municipality these people have been inhumanly and injuriously treated."

LETTER FROM THE INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

April 1st, 1881.

Our work during the winter has taken the direction of "charity through employment."

I.—THE FRIENDLY INN

during the month of February had 411 lodgers and gave 881 meals to transients. The lodgings and meals are furnished at ten cents each. They are worked out on the woodpile, a quarter-cord of wood being cut or a half-cord split for each ticket. It is but rarely that any now try to evade the work, though we have special policemen in case of necessity. We have fitted up beds and canvas bunks, and furnish a night-shirt and warm bed clothing. Commodes have been found necessary for night use, which are cared for by one of the lodgers specially detailed.

The number of lodgers for March will be nearly 500, and about 1,200 meals will be furnished. The Inn has paid all of its running expenses by the work done on the woodpile. It has also made the tramp a rare sight in the street. It has a humane influence also, and is no longer looked upon suspiciously.

II.—THE FRIENDLY INN WOOD-YARD

not only gives work to tramps, but has furnished work as it has been able, to all who have applied.

It is now being used in connection with the relief work. That is, in cases where relief would be given by the County or Benevolent Society, work is given instead. Only those recommended by the District Committees are given work, and as full an investigation is now made for work as for relief. The yard has been of value to us in the case of boys.

Where their labor will keep the family quite or nearly off the County or Benevolent Society, they are taken in at the yard.

A marked feature of the yard is its sale of wood to the poor. In the five weeks ending March 22, it had sold one thousand lots of wood, chiefly in five and ten cent sales. The largest amount possible is given them. The demand for the product of the yard from the public is in excess of the supply and the wood is made at a profit. The business of the yard since December 1 has aggregated about \$3,500.

III.—WOMEN'S WORK ROOMS.

The Industrial Committee of the Benevolent Society selected ten women from the relief list and have furnished them work in lieu of relief, to the amount of one dollar per week. The work furnished is on kitchen aprons. These are put on sale at one of the principal stores and find ready sale. The enterprise is self-sustaining, paying the cost of the instructress as well as material.

All of the above are operated by the Benevolent Society in connection with the Charity Organization Society. They indicate lines of work that may be operated at no great expenditure of money.

OSCAR C. McCULLOCH.

COUNTY ALMS-HOUSES.

A four-page pamphlet, deserving general attention, contains the admirable report of Rev. Dr. Wayland, who, with J. R. Sypher, Esq., represented our Society at the Convention of the State Board of Charities with the Directors of the Poor throughout the State, held at Harrisburg in September last. His comments have lost none of their freshness. We quote such paragraphs as our space will permit:

TOBACCO.

I do not believe that it is the duty of the tax-payers to furnish either prisoners or paupers with luxuries. This should be done by private charity. If provided at all by the tax-payers, the luxuries should be limited to those who have done extra work or in some way earned the indulgence. In my opinion also the knowledge that tobacco was denied the inmates of the jail and the poor-house, would be a stimulus to many a person to scratch very hard to avoid getting within the tobacco-less walls. I have never felt that I could afford to use tobacco myself. Why should I be taxed in order to make the poor-house and the jail needlessly attractive?

CHILDREN IN THE POOR-HOUSE.

This is a matter of great moment. There were in '79, in the Chester County Poor-House, 60 children; in Lebanon County, 45 children; in Lehigh County, 80 children; in Northampton, 65 children; in another, 65 children. Of course, children trained in the Poor-House grow up to be paupers, just stopping on the way to be thieves, tramps, and prostitutes. No child ought to be left an hour in the Almshouse after he can be removed with safety. A resolution was passed urging the passage by the Legislature of an act similar to those adopted in Massachusetts and New York, positively forbidding under penalties, the commission or retention in any Almshouse or jail, of any child from two to sixteen years. They should be sent to homes in families, or to Orphan Asylums; and the criminal children to the House of Refuge. A member of the State Board told me that on a recent visit to Susquehanna County, he found in the jail, associating freely with the prisoners of every grade, a child of nine years. He had broken into a shop and had stolen some peanuts and the like. He was committed for burglary. The case did not come in time for the September session of the Grand Jury, and so he was waiting their action at the November session.

INSANE POOR.

The next question was: "Should not all of the insane be supported by the State at State Hospitals, at least until decided that they are incurable, after which they might be removed to asylum accommodation at Alms-houses?" The cost of supporting an insane person at one of the State Hospitals is not less than \$3 a week, besides clothing, breakage, traveling expenses, etc. The counties claim that they can support them in Almshouses at \$1.50 a week. Of course, this is a strong argument, if you look no further.

But it is absolutely indisputable that in many of the County Almshouses, the treatment of the insane paupers has been inhuman in the extreme. I do not charge this to cruelty, but to ignorance and to short-sighted economy. Let me cite one or two instances from the last Report of the State Board of Charities. Of Cumberland County they say: "The Commissioners found two of the (insane) inmates chained to the floor of their cells, one of them only because the asylum was not supplied with the ordinary apparatus for restraining him; the other because

the attendants who were recently appointed had been informed that he was violent and at times dangerous. This patient was entirely nude, and had not worn clothing (we were informed) for many years. The room in which he was confined was filthy in the extreme, and he was, in consequence of the fear of his attendants, entirely neglected."

It appeared on further examination that this man was not a pauper at all; that his deceased parents had left ample provision for his support, and that a sum amounting to as much as would be charged in a State Hospital was regularly paid for his maintenance.

The Board secured the removal of this patient to the State Hospital at Harrisburg; they report that "immediately upon his reception in that institution, he was properly clothed and placed in the ward appropriated to patients of this class, where he is at this time, enjoying freedom from chains, and the liberty of the airing-yards, corridors, and sitting-rooms."

Of Delaware County they say: "One (insane) woman was found tied to the wall for want of proper kind of restraints. One patient was chained to the floor of his cell, and others locked up, which in almost every instance, would not have been necessary, had the proper kind of restraining apparatus been supplied by the Directors of the Poor. The officers in charge were evidently ignorant of or unskilled in the duty and care of insane patients."

Of Somerset County they say: "In one of the departments of the insane, four insane men are partly nude. They were strictly confined and lying in straw which was saturated with filth, a scene that was too repulsive to be looked on for a single moment."

It seems to me quite certain that the insane cannot with safety be left in the care of the keepers of the County Poor Houses. As to the question of economy, no doubt life can be maintained at a very small expense. But I really think that it would be more humane to poison the hopeless maniac than to prolong a life which is to be spent amid such surroundings. If, on the other hand, the insane are to be cared for as is demanded by humanity, then the counties cannot do it as cheaply as the State. If the work is to be done properly, buildings must be erected. Add the cost of these buildings and of suitable attendance, and the economy vanishes into air. I said "suitable attendance." The economy at the county asylums comes partly from employing the paupers. There is (or would be if it were not so repulsive to humanity) something ludicrous in the idea of trusting one whose reason is dethroned and who above all others needs the tenderest and most skillful care, to the supervision of a decrepit pauper to whom no judicious farmer would entrust a valuable Suffolk pig.

If the State Hospitals are not managed with economy, let this be corrected. But the charge of \$3 does not appear high, when we consider that in Massachusetts the cost has ranged from \$3 to \$6.37 per week.

It is proposed to remove the motive of economy from the County Directors by having the State assume half of the cost, so that the Counties should not pay more than \$1.50 per week. In Ohio the State assumes the whole expense; and the plan is said to work well.

We have now in the State, hospital accommodation for 3,200; and there are in the State hospitals only 1,600 patients.

EMPLOYMENT.

"How can inmates of an Almshouse be co-employed to an advantage during the winter?" Here again the penny-wise pound-foolish policy was in its glory. It is, perhaps, cheaper at first sight (or at least it is less troublesome and less taxing to the brain) just to keep the paupers alive than to devise the means of employing them. But there is no doubt as to the true wisdom. The principle in all our penal and charitable institutions should be: "If any able-bodied person will not work, neither let him eat." The most deadly poison to the whole nature is unearned bread.

In this connection let me say that on Wednesday morning, before the opening of the meeting, I visited the jail of Dauphin county, which is situated directly in the rear of the court house. I was very courteously treated, and was allowed to see all that there was to see. I found 52 cells. There were 53 prisoners, of whom five were to be removed to Philadelphia that morning (two boys to the House of Refuge, and three men to the Eastern Penitentiary). The prisoners were confined two or three in a cell. This was quite needless, as several of the cells were empty or were used for lumber, etc.

One or two of the men were sweeping the hall. Some of them do a little work in cooking. But, with these slight exceptions, all were absolutely idle. I was favored with a copy of the last report of the Board of Inspectors, where I found, among the items of expense, the following: "Brooms, etc., \$170.31." Pray, why should not the inmates make their own brooms? "Brogans, slippers, and shoes, \$193.95." "Pants, shirts, and overalls, \$290.42." Pray, why could not these men make their own brogans and overalls? I presume that they might not, at the first go-off, do a very handsome job; but I do not imagine that the prisoners are expected to shine very much in fashionable society. It is said that the terms

are too short for them to learn; but many of them enjoy the hospitality of the County more than once. One of the men who was going to Philadelphia was entering on his fifth sentence. A man might, at least, get a start in his first sentence, and become quite an adept with his needle by the end of his third or fourth. But the following item of expense is yet more extraordinary: "Cleaning yards and hauling, \$10." Could they not clean the jailyard? If they could not polish it off with a fine tooth-comb, they could certainly make it look respectable enough for an occasional hanging. "Filling straw beds, \$82." Think of these pampered children of luxury, having their meals and their tobacco regularly, and having somebody to make their clothes and clean out their yard! Hereafter let us read: "Consider the jail-birds! They toil not, neither do they spin," etc. Really, it seems to me that the straw might have been bought by the load, and the men might have filled their own bed-sacks.

Now, just think of this. Consider what is the effect upon the best of us of a day of complete idleness. It is agony, until one has sunk so low, morally and mentally, as to like it; and when that level is reached, the man is gone; only the animal remains.

And here are these men, with nothing to occupy their minds except the remembrance of their own successful or unsuccessful villainies. And each of them has a "pal" with whom to talk the whole over, and with whom to talk and to practise the vilest obscenity.

At last, the prisoner's term is out, and he is released. What next? He has lost, during his confinement and enforced idleness, much of his bodily vigor; he has contracted habits of utter idleness; he has learned no trade; what is he to do but steal? He is in all respects a far worse man for every moment that he has spent in jail.

REFORMATORY NEEDED.

The project now on foot to remove the House of Refuge into the country, and to convert its present premises into an intermediate Reformatory for boys and girls who are too old for the House of Refuge and too young to be committed to Moyamensing or the Eastern Penitentiary, is one deserving the earnest support of our community. Many young people blunder or are enticed into wrong doing who are not viciously inclined, and who would be easily reclaimed and made into respectable and useful members of society, if only they were treated with due discretion and surrounded by the influences and motives which induce to better lives. They are not criminals, and do not deserve to be associated with them; but by being committed to prisons they are thenceforward branded as felons, shunned as moral lepers, and effectually excluded from all opportunities to reform. A commitment to a real Reformatory, whose aim is not to punish but to help, would save many a young person from a life of crime and relieve the community from the expense of guarding and maintaining an outcast in an ever deepening life of depravity.

In view of the present interest in the subject, the following description of the

NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY

at Elmira, from the Report just issued by the New York State Board of Charities, will prove of interest:

"There were 395 resident inmates and 14 on parole, making a total of 409.

"The management and discipline are entirely different from that of the prisons, penitentiaries and refuges of the State, and seem to promise the best results. The men are allowed much more freedom, and certain special privileges are granted according to grade.

"These grades are three in number, and all the prisoners are entered in the intermediate grade, and the promotion or degradation of each depends upon his own conduct, the system being entirely individual in its character. Before this plan was fairly in operation, it was estimated that for every one advanced, there would be at least two degraded; but a three years' experiment has given a far more satisfactory result; for, to every one who has retrograded, there have been six promoted. A heinous offense only will degrade—slight misdemeanors being punished by withdrawal of certain luxuries, as tea or coffee, or of certain privileges.

In the second grade there is no distinctive uniform; but when an inmate is reduced to the third grade, he wears a decidedly prison uniform of rough cloth, is compelled to eat in his cell alone, and his food is

thoroughly prison fare. There is one step even below this. Continued ill-behavior subjects the inmate to constant seclusion—though not in idleness.

"At the time of our visit but five of the 409 prisoners belonged to this class. As we passed these sitting alone in their cells, but busily at work, Superintendent Brockway kindly spoke to them, and after passing, told us of the complaints of one at his degradation, and of his inclination to think it unjust, and also of his own line of reasoning with him to show him its justice. He said: 'Before you were sentenced to come here you were in society and had an opportunity like others to make yourself respected and esteemed, but your conduct was so bad that it was deemed necessary to withdraw you from your fellow men, and you were placed not in a prison, but in a reformatory, where every opportunity was still offered you to make yourself better; but we were compelled to degrade you, and even then your disposition for evil-doing was so marked that we were forced to lower you still further. Now the matter has always rested and rests still with yourself. Just so soon as you manifest a disposition to do better we shall give you a better place.' And this is evidently the incentive urged upon the men throughout the institution.

"The full term of imprisonment cannot exceed the maximum term prescribed by law for the offense of which the inmate is convicted, but he may, by good conduct, earn his release in a few months.

"What is termed perfect behavior for six months, determined by receiving nine marks each month—three for industry, three for good conduct and three for progress in studies—will advance a man to the first grade. In this he is furnished with a uniform which resembles, in no particular, a prison dress; he is allowed many additional privileges; he assists even in the management of subordinate grades; he is sometimes allowed to go outside the walls, and has even been trusted with commissions to parties in the city, and in no instance has there been any betrayal of the trust. In this grade the inmates are permitted to see and converse with their friends without the presence of an officer. Six months' perfect behavior in the first grade releases the inmate from confinement; he is allowed to go where he chooses. He is, however, for six months more subjected to constant watch by some agent of the Reformatory; but this supervision is friendly and not police. If his conduct be satisfactory during this six months, he is relieved entirely from custody and receives pardon from the Governor. If, however, he relapses into his old, vicious habits, he is sent back to the reformatory, where he may make a second attempt to obtain his release."

The Superintendent thinks that, in some cases, the shortest way to a man's head and heart is through his stomach, and so the food furnished is nutritious and palatable. During the hour for meals conversation is freely allowed and good cheer encouraged. This for the first and second grades; the lowest are condemned to eat in their cells.

The cells are on the penitentiary plan, except that they are much larger, those for the first grade men being eight by ten feet. The inmates are allowed to decorate their cells with articles furnished by their friends, such as strips of carpeting, counterpanes, etc., and in many instances the walls give evidence of the skill of the occupant in the little frames, brackets, and other ornaments which he has fashioned in his hours of leisure, thus lending attraction to the narrow quarters and giving them the appearance of a room rather than a cell.

In connection with the reformatory are reading rooms furnished with magazines and newspapers, and good conduct entitles the inmates to go there on certain evenings to read. Those of the first grade are allowed to visit their reading-room at almost any time outside of their regular employment hours.

On certain evenings of the week instruction is given in penmanship, stenography and other subjects, preparation for which has been previously made in the cells.

On Sunday afternoons there are religious exercises in the chapel, which all are required to attend except those in hospital.

It is expected that this institution will be self-supporting from its manufactures. Brushmaking is at present the chief industry; this alone has brought in a revenue the past year. A new building for the manufacture of hollow-ware was recently completed, and another branch of industry is thus established, from which good profits are anticipated.

The men are not allowed to converse during the hours of labor, but they can look about freely and have no appearance of restraint or doggedness. They all seemed to be working with a will, and the Superintendent stated that quite recently the amount of work was increased one-third by a simple appeal to the men.

There is most admirable system in all the workings of this institution, even to lowest details. In the matter of supplies, every item produced

or expended is accounted for, and the cost of every meal is calculated to the fraction of a cent.

The spirit manifested in the discipline and management of this institution is, beyond all question, very benevolent and laudable, and it is well worthy of success in its grand object, that of reforming the inmates. Every incentive is urged for all to go "onward and upward," rather than backward; to make men, rather than brutes of themselves. Appeal is constantly made to their better natures, and the beautiful words upon the chapel walls are a fitting key to the admirable policy of the reformatory:

"Look not mournfully into the past, it comes not back again. Wisely improve the present time, for it is thine. Then shalt thou be prepared to meet the shadowy future without fear and with a manly heart. For all may have, if they dare choose, a glorious life or grave."

EMIGRATING CHILDREN TO THE WEST.

An impression has been current among some of our citizens interested in the welfare of the waifs and street arabs of Philadelphia, that a large proportion of the boys sent West by the New York Children's Aid Society run away from the parties with whom its agents place them and shift for themselves in unknown ways, and therefore that the system of sending such boys to the West is a partial failure.

Of course the difficulty is very great of keeping accurate trace of every one of the 59,481 children sent West by the Society up to last November; but its system of local Western agents charged with the oversight of its wards, enables the Society to know the facts with a tolerable degree of certainty. It employs five such agents, who traveled, according to the last report on file, over 61,000 miles during the year, which indicates considerable activity in maintaining supervision.

Confident that such an impression did great injustice to the Society, Mr. Brace was addressed on the subject and makes the following reply:

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY,
19 East Fourth Street,
New York, March 14, 1881.

Dear Mr. Kellogg:

Of boys under 14, sent West by this Society, I do not think 5 per cent. turn out badly.

Of those older, there are very few cases where they come back on the public, either in prisons, reformatories, or almshouses; but they are inclined (like all our laboring classes) to change places often, and yet they often do well in a new family.

We hear from great numbers of these who are doing well, owning farms and accumulating property.

I send a copy of a letter, recently received from one of the large boys, as a specimen (we get hundreds of such).

The demand from the Northwest for these children is as great as ever, which shows that they bear a good character there yet; and of a hundred children in a county, if five run away or do badly, it makes a very bad impression.

Yours faithfully,

C. L. BRACE, Sec'y.

Pomona, Franklin Co., Kansas,
February 20, 1881.

Dear Mr. * * *

I will tell you how I am getting along. I have turned over a new leaf since I left the city. I have joined the Sunday School. I have a cow and five acres of wheat; my wheat looks well. I will make more than any five boys in the city this year. Those who see this country say it is a pretty country. I have not been round much since I have been here. We opened up a new farm. A Mr. Glenn, from Illinois, lives on it. We had to build a house and barn. We broke up 65 acres of prairie and had to haul timber eight miles for fence. We fenced in 240 acres and put in a crop of wheat, but it was so dry the chintz bugs eat the wheat. But we raised 240 bushels of turnips. Mr. Glenn and I worked in the woods about two months; we put up wood enough to last all summer and fall. It has been very cold and so much snow the roads were all blocked up, so if we went to town we had to go through the fields. The heaviest storms ever known in Kansas; snow from three to six feet deep. I have learned all kinds of farm work. I love to plow and do all kinds of work on a farm. I would not give my chance for any boy's in the city. If my wheat does well I shall clear, with corn and oats, \$150 this year. I can make more than five boys can in the city.

I have the books you gave me. I am going to keep them for a remembrance of you. Please send me your picture and I will send you mine.

Please send me a few sheets of paper with different pictures of the city on them. I will send back the money. Hope you and your family are well. Love to all the boys.

Excuse mistakes.

Yours truly,

JOHN BROWN.

LEGAL RELIEF.

Referring to our recent article on the excellent work done by a committee of the "New Century Club" of this city in affording legal protection for working women, we now add an outline of similar relief for the oppressed poor in the 16th Ward of New York City by a local society known as the "Loan Relief Association." This judicious society supplies, with studious discrimination, the precise help required; but to the able-bodied it always partakes of the nature of a loan, which must be repaid in money, kind, or work. It also loans furniture and medical requisites to the sick poor without charge, to be returned after recovery. But a most helpful feature of its work is its legal relief to the oppressed poor, which is thus described in a recent letter from Miss Sarah T. Sands, who has been the secretary of the association for many years:—

"We do not confine ourselves to any particular class or form of oppression; all under our care who need legal advice or protection receive it.

"I presume the poor of all cities are subject to much moral injustice and legal oppression. This is due in part to their failure to think and act intelligently for themselves in matters of business, and in part to their surroundings. The aim of the "Department of Legal Aid" of the "Loan Relief Association" is to protect the poor from imposition and wrong, to render it impossible for their oppressor to say "you can't help yourself because you have no money to procure legal aid," and at the same time it teaches them to be more careful and exact in their dealings, to read and understand a paper before signing it, and to realize that a promise means something. "The work might be outlined as follows:

"Legal advice without action.

"Legal protection in cases of oppression and recovery of unpaid wages.

"Restoration of furniture bought upon the instalment plan, by which the purchaser, failing to pay an instalment when due, forfeits the amounts already paid, and the furniture is taken away, and he loses what to him is a large amount.

"Sewing machines, bought also on instalment plan and seized in the same manner, are restored.

"Furniture mortgaged for rent and retained by landlords is returned to families having been ejected and turned into the street with nothing to help themselves with. (Here loans in money come into play.)

"Mortgages—agreements—contracts—specifications, etc., drawn up.

"In some extreme cases bills of separation between husbands and wives are gotten; rarely, if ever, divorce, for the separation accomplishes all that is desirable.

"Rescuing those who are in the clutches of dishonorable lawyers, who exact their fees from their clients and never fulfil their promises to secure justice.

"Small means left widows and orphans are secured, which they, unaided, cannot get because of some complication.

"The *modus operandi* is as follows:—All cases needing legal protection or advice are brought to the notice of the officers of the Association by the Visitors. Upon such notification an investigation is made by one or two of the officers, and, if found satisfactory, the case is brought before the counsel of the Association. He undertakes it, and has so far been able to give the relief needed. His services are gratuitous. Several judges and justices have also kindly extended their assistance when called upon.

"We have no formulated rules to govern this department other than those which govern our other departments. All help given we consider loans, and always require clients to pay something if they can afford to; if not, they work for the Association.

"This department is self-supporting. Suits undertaken, having been successful, costs are paid by defendants."

This subject deserves to be earnestly considered by those who are so situated as to be able to form a "Legal Aid Dispensary" of sufficient scope to cover all cases of need. Detailed information will be cheerfully given by the Secretary, whose office is at No. 5 East 17th Street, or by the Attorney, Mr. James B. Dill, of 120 Broadway, N. Y.

NOTES.

FAMILY vs. INSTITUTIONS.

One of the citizens of Indiana thus summarizes the objections to a State or County Orphan Asylum or School, as compared with the "family" plan:—

1. Its great expense, both in its construction and operation.
2. The certainty that it will be made a political machine, like all other State institutions.
3. Because "institutional" training cannot in the nature of things properly fit a child for actual life. The rules of an institution must be more rigid and machine-like than in a family home, and consequently there is less opportunity to exercise and cultivate the *judgment, self-reliance and individuality* of the child.
4. Every child requires individual training suited to its capacities; but in an institution with large numbers the necessary rules and regulations make this comparatively impossible.
5. The aggregation of large numbers of children has a demoralizing effect, and the younger the child the greater the injury, both physical and moral. God's order places children in families, and the nearer we can approach this plan in providing for children, whose natural protectors are taken away or are incompetent, the better it will be for the children and for the State.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK.

We have still on hand for sale a few copies of this excellent and attractive work of Chas. Loring Brace, the perusal of which would both interest and educate the reader. Few novels furnish more absorbing reading. His delineations of the street waifs, the newsboys, homeless girls, the thieves' lodging houses, the rag pickers, the Italian quarter, Rotten Row, Poverty Lane, Drunkards' Club, and other characteristics of low life in New York are vivid and startling, and contain much that every lover of his kind, and every citizen should know. It is just the book for a quiet, thoughtful hour, at home or by the seaside; and many of its pages would be of intense interest to the children, especially those which describe the immense remedial efforts put forth, and the touching incidents which copiously illustrate them. It should be in every family.

MENDICITY DODGES.

The London Charity Organization Society advertise one Jacob Goldstein, a street mendicant, whose professional line is in fits and fevers. While having him in the clutches of the law, it was in evidence that he kept his whole head well shaved to give an appearance of truth to his statements that he was recovering from a fever; and that he was in the habit of falling down and simulating fits, outside churches on Sundays as the congregations were emerging, in order to draw out the sympathy of the good people gathered there.

Not long since a dilapidated looking man sidled up to a gentleman in the street, and in a whining, piteous tone asked for the "price of a cup of coffee, for he had had no breakfast." The man hastily gave him a dime, and then bethought him that he should see what was done with the money. He stepped into the shelter of a doorway till the beggar passed on, and following him, soon saw him enter a liquor shop. Waiting until the man emerged again and was out of the way, he entered and asked the barkeeper what the man purchased. "Ten cents worth of gin," was the answer. "And what did he say?" "As he drank it he said 'Here's to the fool who gave me the money.'" Doubtless, also, the wife and children received a benefit when the brute returned home.

A tramp called, one warm summer-day, at the house of a well-to-do family, and begged for a dinner, with a piteous story of hunger and fatigue:

"Why don't you go to work and earn your living, instead of tramping about in this way?" was asked.

"I'm looking for work all the time, but there is nothing doing in my trade at present," was the response, and the earnestly expressed desire for work secured him a good dinner.

At parting, the lady of the house, hoping she might be able to suggest where he might find work, asked, sympathetically,

"And what is your trade, my good man?"

"Shovelling snow," he said, and vanished.

HOSPITAL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

The Warden of this most beneficent Charity, Rev. Dr. H. P. Hay, offers to receive, free of charge, any child under twelve years of age, sick or feeble, coming under the care our Ward Associations, and duly authenticated to him by them. Our Superintendents, Visitors and Committees on Decision of Relief will please make a note of this liberal offer, which is made from a sense of interest in our Society and a desire to co-operate with us, as far as possible. The city office of the Warden is at 619 North Fourth street, where the officers of the Ward Associations may communicate with him.

CASES.

Case No. 75—7th Ward. Unusual thrift. A woman whose case seemed to demand and deserve relief, was supplied with coal from the Ward office, and also received help in provisions and clothing several times during the winter from two leading General Relief Societies. It was recently ascertained that all these contributions were sold as received, and the proceeds put into the savings bank. While untruthful in a rare degree, and occasionally intemperate, she was yet clear-headed enough to provide for the rainy day.

Case No. 76—30th Ward. Mistaken sympathy. A strong appeal was made by a lady residing in the 8th Ward, that a 30th Ward family should be immediately and liberally relieved, as it was Saturday P. M., and they should not suffer over Sunday. The man and wife and grown-up daughter were reported very destitute and the father sick. On visiting the house it was found to be one of the better class, well furnished and no sign of want. Relying on the judgment of the lady who thought she knew their circumstances, a load of coal was sent, which the family absolutely refused to receive, as no need existed for any outside help, and much indignation was expressed that they should be classed as subjects for charity without proper knowledge of their circumstances.

Case No. 77—19th Ward. Washington's birthday was celebrated by a woman as follows: She applied to a patriotic and benevolent clergyman, saying that she and her two children were starving. She was referred to the Ward Office for immediate investigation and aid. She gave her age as 35, and residence 1621 North Fourth. If she could be helped over only "till to-morrow," she would then receive assistance from her father at Harrisburg, who was an Auditor for the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Superintendent hastened over to the house to rescue the forlorn family, but found it to be a *stable*, and no such people known by any of the neighbors. The name given was Mrs. Kate Faulkner, widow for over five years. Inquiry at the head office of the railroad develops that there is no such Auditor on the road.

Case No. 78—8th Ward. A family of man, wife and three children, the father a glass-blower, came from Baltimore to work here, and shortly after was discharged for not signing a contract to strike. They were found destitute and relieved, and by correspondence it was found he could get work by returning to Baltimore. The whole family were therefore sent back, and they are now self-supporting.

Caution.—Abigail Hill, 40 to 45 years old, medium size, a good talker, professes to sew well and to want work, has been under the care of two of our Associations and shows very thoroughly her unwillingness to work, and her habit of spending all she can earn in drink. All help given to her benefits only the gin shops, and prevents her reformation.

Annie Smith, about 50 years old, large woman with very gray hair, makes capital for begging by complaints of rheumatism in the hips. She is able and has opportunities to earn her own living where her ailment will be cared for and her whole physical condition much improved. She is a hard drinker, and the results of her begging go for drink.

Further details of both these cases may be had at the 6th Ward Office.

The 9th Ward cautions against a woman 24 years old, brown eyes, good looking, whose husband is in the Almshouse dying of dissipation. She is a drunken and licentious beggar, living with her husband's brother upon the proceeds of her beggary. Her appeals are pathetic and successful. All who give to her without searching investigation are only aiding and abetting her.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK.	By CHARLES L. BRACE.	By mail
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. By CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....	3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. By S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25	.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.00	.65

THE following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 8. }
WHOLE NO. 20. }

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 15, 1881.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: its endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
- 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
- 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Samuel G. King (*ex-officio*)

WARD.

3. A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,
5. Wm. S. Price,
6. Thomas M. Seeds,
7. R. C. McMurtrie,
8. Alexander Brown,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

11. J. Christian Miller,
12. W. Fred. Snyder,
13. Jas. V. Watson,
14. Henry M. Laing,
15. Geo. Burnham,
16. Isaac A. Sheppard,
19. A. H. Overholt,
20. Wm. Y. Colladay,

WARD.

22. Jabez Gates,
23. Samuel Bolton,
27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.
28. John G. Williams,
29. Geo. W. Simons,
30. A. A. Catanach,
31. Robert Mair.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

- H. L. Hodge, M.D. (Pres.)
Joshua L. Bailey (V. Pres.)
Rev. Chas. G. Ames,
John H. Atwood,
Rudolph Blankenburg,
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,
H. T. Child, M.D.,

- A. C. Deakyne, M.D.,
Nelson F. Evans,
Philip C. Garrett,
Thos. C. Hand, jr.,
Thos. S. Harrison,
Samuel Huston,

- Josiah R. Sypher,
Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Geo. N. Torrence,
James S. Whitney,
Albert B. Williams,
Robt. N. Willson.

MEETINGS UNTIL JUNE 15TH.

Monday,	May	16,	8 P. M., Assembly. Adjourned Meeting.†
Monday,	May	23,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	June	6,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Tuesday,	June	7,	3 P. M., Women's General Conference.†
Monday,	June	13,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

* At the Central Office.

† At the Lecture Hall, N. E. Cor. 15th and Market Sts.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can get

YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

STREET BEGGING.

Attention is called to the report in another column of an interview between members of our Society and His Honor Mayor King concerning this evil, and to his emphatic assurances of co-operation to suppress it.

But citizens have a duty to perform in this connection by bringing their benevolent impulses under a wise restraint, and letting their heads guide their hearts when appealed to by those of whose real circumstances they know nothing. The public are not really aware that by encouraging these beggars by their gifts they often show the greatest inhumanity to them. Many of these unfortunate persons are too feeble to resist their heartless relatives who place them upon the streets in all the wet and cold of the winter, clad and equipped in the most pitiable manner to elicit the most sympathy, and the relatives live in idleness and debauchery off their collections. It is in this way that the unfortunate sufferers with the most appalling ills of humanity are exposed—"monumental beggars" as they have been called—to the public gaze in our crowded thoroughfares. The blind, the deformed, the maimed, and the crippled, the shivering old imbecile and the helpless infants and children are allowed to be thus hawked about. There can be no question that for these classes at least there is ample provision in our public institutions, and that they have the first claim for protection there. It is a gross cruelty, as well as a public indecency, that their presence should be permitted in the streets.

The laws of the State for the suppression of mendicancy should therefore be enforced, as well for the protection of the public as for the good of the destitute. Under the Vagrant Act of 1876, it is the duty of constables and police officers, either upon information of a citizen, or upon their own view, to arrest "All persons going about from door to door, or placing themselves in streets, highways or other roads, to beg or gather alms, and all persons wandering abroad and begging who have no fixed place of residence in the township, ward or borough in which the vagrant is arrested." Under the Tramp Act of 1879 it is competent for any person, officer or private citizen to apprehend any man who may be seen in the act of begging, and to take him before a magistrate for a hearing. The Act defines a Tramp as "Any person going about from place to place begging, asking or subsisting upon charity, and for the purpose of acquiring money, or a living, and who shall have no fixed place of residence or lawful occupation in the county or city in which he shall be arrested," and who cannot prove that he does not make a practice of going about begging. The provisions of the "Tramp Act" do not apply to females or minors under the age of sixteen years, blind, deaf or dumb persons, nor to maimed or crippled persons who are unable to perform manual labor.

It will be seen that *every* beggar should be arrested, and it is for the magistrate, on examination, to determine whether they are Vagrants or Tramps. The women, children and helpless persons, although excepted from the provision of the Tramp Act, are not excepted from those of the Vagrant Act. It may also be well to remember that any constable or officer refusing to arrest is subject to a penalty of five dollars.

NEXT NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES.

We have received from the President, Mr. F. B. Sanborn, of Concord, Mass., a notice of the 8th Annual Conference of Charities and Corrections, to be held in Boston from the 25th to the 30th of July, 1881. Gov. Long, of Massachusetts will preside at the opening of the Conference and several of the Governors of States are expected to be present, as well as delegates from a majority of the States, and from Canada.

Monday, July 25.—The retiring President, Mr. F. B. Sanborn, will give the annual address, to be followed by the proceedings of the Committee on the organization and work of State Boards of Charities.

Tuesday—is assigned to the Committee on Charitable Organization in Cities.

Wednesday—to the Committee on Immigration.

Thursday—to the Committee on Crime and Penalties.

Friday—to the Committee on Preventive Work among Children.

Saturday—to the Committee on Imbecility and Idiocy.

Double the length of time has been allotted for this Conference than has been heretofore accorded, and an entire day is assigned to each of the six Standing Committees. The forenoons will be given to their reports and debates following; the afternoons to visiting institutions of charity and correction in the vicinity of Boston, and the evenings to a session for papers and debates.

"Members of Boards of Charities and Prison Commissions are *ex-officio* members of the Conference, as well as the delegates appointed to represent states. All persons officially connected with public charitable, penal, or reformatory establishments who attend in that capacity are also members of the Conference; and all persons regularly delegated to represent private charitable organizations, are admitted as members on presenting their credentials. All other persons interested in charitable work are invited to be present."

It is understood that the enlargement of time by the Committee of Arrangements for this Conference was decided upon not only from the greatly increased importance of the Conferences, but also to allow opportunity to those who may be present to visit the institutions for which Boston and its vicinity is so remarkable.

The special prominence given to Charity-Organization in Cities will be observed. That Standing Committee has the second day of the Conference assigned to it. Members of our Philadelphia Society, and of the Charity Organization Societies now existing in so many of the eastern and western cities and towns, should certainly strive to be present. The admirable development of the Boston Society particularly invites the study of all Charity Organization Societies' workers, and the comparison of the features that are peculiar to many of these Societies would doubtless be productive of much improvement to all in the discussion of their particular advantages in methods of work.

It is also announced that the meeting of the American Social Science Association will take place at Saratoga from September 5th to 9th.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION EXTENDING.—Since our last the citizens of Lowell, Mass.; Princeton, N.J.; and Baltimore, Md., have become aroused to the absolute need of organizing their isolated Charities and have taken the initial steps. In Lowell the movement has culminated in the formation of the "*Associated Charities of Lowell*," and a public meeting will shortly be held for the election of officers and the commencement of active work.

In Princeton, on the 22d ult., one of the officers of our Society met the Mayor, pastors and leading citizens in a conference upon the general subject which resulted in a resolution that a Charity Organization Society was necessary, and the appointment of a committee of fifteen to mature the needed plans.

"*The Charity Organization Society of Baltimore City*" was formed on the 29th ult., at a meeting presided over by President D. C. Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins' University, in which meeting were included delegates from over thirty benevolent institutions and representatives of every creed. The movement is managed by able hands and promises to be very efficient.

We offer to each of the above our hearty God-speed.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

The question of establishing a system of industrial education is pressing itself upon the consideration of our communities, and is conceded to be a problem which must be solved in the affirmative. Its absolute necessity is admitted, and its discussion centres in what manner and by whom it shall be given. Every community finds that a large portion of its youth has reach or is coming to manhood without a knowledge of a trade or special occupation, to drift through life dependent upon chance occupation for a living.

In the recent period of business depression, when the volume of trade was so limited that it did not furnish incidental employment to the unskilled, the most desperate and reckless of that class assailed in force some of the great business enterprises of the country. It is declared as a known fact that few of those who composed the alarming mobs had any knowledge of skilled employment, and it is equally true that during that season of business stagnation, as a rule, the regular trades and skilled occupations afforded a fair living support.

There is no kind of ignorance more to be feared by our social and

political institutions than that which knows no handicraft or special occupation upon which it may depend for the necessities of life. When illiteracy is joined with untutored hands, a type of humanity is reached more dangerous than the uncivilized subjects of barbarous tribes.

Intellectual and manual education should be regarded as equally necessary to the welfare and safety of the State, and should command equal opportunity of acquisition. Indeed it seems more essential that the knowledge of a trade or occupation should be acquired before arriving at manhood. Intellectual training may cover every period of a lifetime.

The fact is becoming better understood that unless this education embraces manual as well as mental training it will fail for want of thoroughness. Does not the exclusive attention which the public has given to mental training account in some measure for the false estimate which assumes a certain honorable distinction as belonging to one occupation, not inherent in others, which require as rare skill and tend more to human and material development?

RECEIVING ATTENTION ABROAD.

Industrial education is receiving thorough attention in Europe, both as regards instruction in design, for the improvement of the artistic character of mechanical productions and also in manual instruction itself. England, in the former field, has established in London what is known as the Kensington Museum and School, at a cost of six million of dollars.

The Institute of Technology of St. Petersburg, which was founded in 1828, exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition a complete set of illustrative models, showing every stage of manipulation in both iron and wood, from the crude material to the manufactured article. This exhibit attracted great attention and contributed much information on the subject. Through the interest manifested by the Boston Institute of Technology, the Russian Government presented that institution with a duplicate set of these models. The Boston school has since introduced this branch of instruction. A number of one-story structures have been placed about the college building, located in one of the best neighborhoods of Boston, in which are taught what may be termed the elementary branches of the trades, embracing moulding, turning, weaving, carpentering, smithing, &c. The students divide their time between this instruction and their books; undoubtedly each profits by the other. Those who are not aware of the great difficulty at the present time of obtaining a good knowledge of a trade or skilled occupation are inclined to believe our youth are less worthy than those of an earlier generation.

Manual training is the most urgent question with which our communities have to deal; to what extent, and how it may be connected with the public school system, is the first phase of the subject to be determined.

SEWING AS A BRANCH OF INDUSTRY.

That may be introduced into the schools with as much facility as many of the branches of study now taught.

The material and implements necessary to sewing are consistent with the school-room. The time given to it would have little, if any, effect upon progress in the present studies, by reason of the refreshment to the faculties such a change of occupation would afford. Sewing is of universal use among women, and is recognized as a knowledge all should possess. It is not only capable of being taught in classes, but none other is so intimately associated with her needs, her nature and her character.

If any industrial training is to be engrafted upon the public school system, sewing will commend itself for the reasons stated. Sewing, combined with the other branches of instruction of the Normal School, would add to the honorable position now justly held by that institution. It is a proper associate of astronomy, geology and chemistry, and, joined with them, would in some degree express and maintain the standing due to industrial pursuits.—*From Pres. Steel's Annual Report to the Board of Education, April 12, 1881.*

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

APRIL MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

James S. Whitney was elected a member of the Board, in place of Theodore Starr, resigned.

An invitation was accepted to meet some of the members of both branches of the City Councils, in conference with the leading general relief societies, to co-operate in securing the selection of suitable persons as candidates for Guardians of the Poor.

The Committee on Legal Questions reported that in their opinion females and minors are subject to the provisions of the Vagrant Act of May 8, 1876, and deem it unadvisable to recommend any additional legislation upon the subject. (See editorial on "Street Begging.")

Complaints were received of hardship to the poor, and inconvenience to members, contributors and others having business at the Ward Offices, by the frequent changes in office hours, without previous, and often without any, notice. Thus also professional beggars were furnished with plausible excuses for begging at house doors and on the streets; and the information printed for the public on the Ward Investigation Tickets and the Society's Card-Charts was rendered incorrect and misleading. The subject was referred to the Committee on Ward Associations.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE MAYOR AND POLICE.

The Society's Committee on Suppressing Mendicancy called upon Mayor King, on the 14th of April, in pursuance of an appointment with him for that purpose. The Committee explained briefly the organization, purposes and methods of the Society, and recommended that the Mayor issue an order to the Police directing them to arrest all persons found begging on the street. The Society, acting in co-operation with other Societies, can provide fully for all persons and families who may be found begging from necessity, or for the purpose of relieving temporary want; but these agencies are powerless in dealing with chronic and incorrigible vagrants and tramps. The Committee therefore invoked the aid of the Departments of the City Government having jurisdiction of the subject.

Mayor King said

"Gentlemen: I am glad to know that you have given this subject careful study and investigation; and, as you have had experience in it, that it is your opinion that the condition of the street beggars will be bettered by their being arrested and forced from the streets. If, as you state, the different Charitable Societies, in co-operation with the public institutions, are ample to supply all the wants of the worthy poor, without compelling any one to beg upon the streets, there is no need of sympathy for those who follow that business, and your wishes can be carried out.

"Sympathy is a good thing, and it is well that so much of it exists in the community. I, myself, have been in the habit of giving on the streets, and I presume in most cases it has been to impostors; but I could not be sure of this, and was not aware that such ample provision as you speak of had been made for the worthy poor. I am glad to know it.

"You shall have the co-operation you ask for in the matter of suppressing street beggars, and I will instruct the Police force, by a General Order, to respond promptly to any reasonable request of your Ward Associations, and to co-operate with your Society in its efforts to accomplish the desired result.

"As to blind and crippled beggars, with whom the Police have not interfered by reason of their infirmities, it is not for the officers to be the judges in the matter. It is their duty to carry out the laws.

"In regard to Vagrants who have been arrested, and properly committed, and immediately thereafter discharged by the authorities of the institution to which they were committed; that will be no reason why they shall not be arrested again. They may employ a sharp lawyer, and get out, but they shall be arrested again and again if they violate the laws. This is a great city, and with nearly a million of people we must expect there will be found impostors among them. I believe, gentlemen, that it is only by giving attention to this matter systematically, as you propose, that we can suppress the beggars, so that we can possibly get along the streets.

"We all know what a bad school street begging is for children; how much suffering and crime of all kinds come from encouraging it. I shall do my part in this matter, and will give directions to my police for carrying out this order; and I shall be glad to have from you as a Society, or as individuals, information in regard to the manner in which this order is carried out, and where the officers are slow in doing their part."

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR MAY.

The Visitors' Conference was held at the usual place, on the 3d inst., at 3 p. m., Mrs. R. E. C. Gillingham, the President, in the chair, and Mrs. M. T. Gawthrop, acting as Secretary.

But 8 Ward Reports were presented, which gave the following particulars: Relief secured from private families, 1; from churches, 1; from relatives, 2; medical aid supplied to 31; placed in hospitals, 12; sick diet procured for 13; permanent employment found for 5; pledge administered to 1; transportation given to 1; placed in Almshouse, 8; in House of Correction, 2; Children placed in country homes, Girard College, etc., 6; removed to other localities, 12; died, 4. The reports all indicate an increase of work procurable, and a great decrease in applications for aid.

Much attention is being paid to collecting the savings of the poor families for fuel, etc., for next winter. Gifts of plants and cuttings are also becoming a feature in some wards, for the refining influence which the cultivation of flowers exerts upon both young and old.

The Secretary called attention to the suggestion of the General Secretary regarding an amended form of report, and after various suggestions as to the value of more detailed returns for guidance, study and statistical information, a committee, consisting of Miss Hallowell and Mrs. Mumford, was appointed to confer with the General Secretary, and draw up such a form of report as would meet the requirements of the case.

Mrs. E. D. Cope, of 7th ward, suggested that the report contain the number of children not sent to school, and the reasons for the neglect.

[Other suggestions are desired, and may be sent to the committee, or General Secretary.]

Miss Garrigues, of 13th ward, desired to know what was meant by the question on the present form of report: "What measures have been taken by which any child, adult or family, during the month, was placed beyond the necessity of asking farther charitable relief?"

Mr. Kellogg said the question covered the widest possible ground, and was intended to include employment, removing family burdens, decreasing family expenses, restoring family ties, instilling economy, use of Day Nursery, and every other form of permanent relief or adequate expedient which would render the applicant independent of aid.

Miss Hallowell, of the 7th ward, spoke of a recent visit to the Boston "Associated Charities," and their methods. She was much struck with the number of young men among the Visitors, and with the active interest taken by them in the meetings and work of visiting. The Visitors divide themselves into committees on special subjects, meet together, read and study cases, and collect the experiences of other Visitors, who are requested to forward such to them. They then devise the best method of treatment for individual cases. Reference was also made to a valuable circular issued to the Visitors, "Concerning Drunkenness," the work of the Committee on Intemperance. (See page 8.)

The same speaker farther desired to call attention to the treatment of intemperance from a medical point of view as a disease. Many physicians were of opinion that much can be thus accomplished, and if these cases could have the same thought and study as is given to a case of fever, perhaps this evil could often be cured, or at least alleviated.

Mrs. Remick, of 16th ward, thought personal influence of Visitors should be brought to bear upon the intemperate to induce them to exercise self-control in abstaining from liquor. The aid of a Higher Power than self-control is also needed.

Mrs. Ivins, of 12th ward, said it was easy to talk of self-control, but the temptation must first be removed before the enfeebled desire for reform could exercise self-control. As long as saloons exist on every corner, we must expect those lacking such control will yield to temptation.

The Chair was satisfied that ill-prepared and cooked food had much to do with intemperance.

Miss Newlin of the 9th Ward asked if there was not a law forbidding liquor dealer to sell to a drunkard.

The General Secretary replied there was such a law, but it was virtually inoperative. It would be difficult to carry such a case to conviction through the courts on account of the opposition that would be thrown in the way, and the character of the evidence required; but it might be done by a Ward Association committee determined to win.

Miss Newlin suggested that if the Visitor would go to the tavern with her man or woman, and request the dealer not to sell, this course might be a strength to the person and a restraint to the dealer.

Mrs. Mumford, of 29th ward, thought there should be compulsory reformatories, with physicians to treat the cases, and proper food given. A confirmed drunkard is as much insane as any inmate of an insane hospital. He is diseased all through, and the will is beyond his control. It might be possible for the House of Correction to be made the place for such reformatory work.

Inquiries were made if any Visitor had found real uplifting to follow a confinement in the House of Correction, or was it a degradation? But no cases could be cited of permanent improvement.

Miss Hallowell stated that the Boston Society considered that all work should be done in the homes of the poor, both the reformatory and industrial. If by our personal efforts, made in their homes and surrounded by their families, we could help such from sinking lower, these very home influences may in time help to raise them to self-respect. She offered these suggestions, hoping they might be fruitful to the Visitors, all of whom, no doubt, have one or more cases of intemperance, upon which they have given much care and thought, and often with little permanent improvement.

The Conference then adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The stated meeting of the Assembly for May was held on the evening of the 2d inst., Robert N. Willson, Esq., presiding. The Secretary of the body, Thos. C. Hand, Jr., read the minutes of the previous meeting, and the General Secretary announced an alteration in the Assembly By-Laws, Art. IV, by which the standing committees are hereafter to meet at least once in three months, instead of once every month as heretofore.

Mrs. J. P. Mumford, of the 29th Ward, by general request then read the paper prepared by her, and read at the Women's General Conference for April, upon the evil of indiscriminate gifts of food at house doors. We regret to be compelled to abridge it:

COLD PIECES.

BY MRS. J. P. MUMFORD.

So much has been said in our recent meetings about the evils of beggary, that possibly the subject is becoming tiresome; and yet, before the topic drops, it may be well to collate some of the opinions which have been uttered, and see if we can gather from them a theory of cure which may be put into practice in our homes.

During the first winter of our work, one class of mendicants was almost entirely suppressed—the "front-door" beggar, who solicited money from house to house, and reaped golden harvests from the kindly disposed. When we look at the decimated ranks of what was three years ago a vast army of swindlers, our work seems decidedly encouraging. But there still parades our streets a companion class upon which we have made no impression. These are the scouts of the class so often found by the District-Visitor in her rounds, and called "unworthy" in her reports. They are herded together in some quarters, living vicious lives, and generally supported by the infirm or child-members of the family, who go from door to door through our respectable neighborhoods begging food and clothing. The kindly-disposed citizen cannot refuse these applicants who ask for what seems of so little value. "I can never turn away a hungry person," says the warm-hearted housekeeper with plenty in store. "These old clothes are of no use to me," says another, "and they will not harm the young man who asks for shoes at the back gate." So food and clothing are served out indiscriminately, and all the labor spent in trying to elevate the condition of these viciously-living people goes for naught. For they reason to themselves very much as the tramp did when urged to leave his roving life, and earn an independent livelihood: "Why should I work?" asked he. "The women folks on my route takes good care of me. Some gives me my victuals; some gives me my clothes; the city furnishes free lodgings in winter, the country in summer; and why should I run my constitution down with hard labor and get no thanks?" But let the generous-minded housekeeper go with us, and follow these gifts which she says "can do no harm." She shall see that along with other well-meaning people in the central and more opulent parts, she has been contributing to support the vilest dens which mar our fair city, helping to sustain hot-beds of iniquity which furnish the creatures who fill our penitentiaries, endanger life and property, and who in times of public disturbance come to the surface of society in appalling numbers. Or she may follow her gifts to the squalid settlement on the outskirts of the city, where, in nine cases out of ten, she will find them used to sustain some able-bodied man, sitting, during the long winter, in idleness over glowing coals, well supplied with tobacco and whiskey, exerting himself only to invent lies to put into the mouths of his half-clothed children, who are daily sent forth in the cold and snow to excite the sympathy of the benevolent.

These are not fancy sketches; they are facts which every Ward-Visitor can substantiate with evidence beyond dispute. Our investigations have so entirely proven the unworthiness of the class found with baskets on our streets, we feel it safe to say that ninety-nine in every hundred are made worse by contributions thus blindly bestowed.

Evidence of this sort was recently brought to bear upon an elderly housekeeper, who had been in the habit for years of giving food to whoever might apply at her door. "But," said she, when forced to acknowledge that the practice was pernicious, "these people are a God-send to us housekeepers. What can we do with our cold pieces if they do not take them off our hands?"

Have we not come upon a question of domestic economy which housekeepers would do well to consider? We are told over and again, that Americans are culpably wasteful of food; and it is often asserted that a French family would live well on what we call the "refuse" of our tables. If this is true, we are not going to save our consciences by making the poor beggar a sort of garbage receptacle for that which we should have consumed in our own families.

It is high time to investigate our kitchen service, and our own superintendence thereof. How many of us have trained cooks who conscientiously turn everything carried from our tables to the best account? Such are rare indeed.

* * * * *

Said a friend in moderate circumstances, "I pay my cook four dollars a week, and I can well afford it. She saves me more than a dollar every week by her economies. When I have a roast for Sunday she makes us four good meals of it. Once we have it hot, once cold, the third dish is a delicious meat-pie, the fourth delightful croquettes. No spurious, illy-made compounds, but each with just the right flavor and amount of cooking, so that each is equally welcome." But in many families this same roast makes the door-beggar a convenience, and is given away, the mistress saying apologetically, "The family would not eat it. They were tired of seeing it come on the table."

When we have appropriated the cold meats, including the very bones, our bread to the last crumb, and even the cold vegetables to make second-day dishes, there seems to be little left which could go into the garbage pail, much less into the basket of the street beggar. But perhaps we *shall* find a handsome balance of our monthly allowance for table expenses left in the treasury. If, then, we are really disposed to devote this sum to the benefit of our poor neighbors, there are many better ways than to use it as a premium on willing idleness and beggary. Give it to the day-nursery, to the kindergarten, to the kitchen-garden, to any or all of those great educating agencies which are rescuing pauper children and putting them in the way to intelligent and self-reliant industry.

But, if the thrifty cook or good mistress sees a threatened waste of food which might in some straightened household prove a blessing, then let it be given away, not indiscriminately, but with judgment and carefulness. There is a clear and safe rule for giving. We must give only to two classes of poor. Those who are disabled, and those who are struggling against odds to help themselves. If in the circle of your acquaintance there are none to whom you can safely give without hurting sensibility or encouraging beggary, or weakening self-dependence, perhaps you can open such connections by consulting some Ward Visitor or agent. But we must not think to escape the charge of wastefulness by merely giving away our surplus table supplies to somebody who *seems* to be in want. For two reasons: First, we teach the poor a very bad lesson when we give away that which they can plainly see we ought, with good management such as we expect of them, to use ourselves. How can we, when careless in using our own resources, talk to them of *prudence, foresight, economy*? "First cast out the beam out of thine own eye." Second, pauperism is a plant of easy growth. Just so far as any one is learning to depend upon any resource to which he is not entitled, and for which he can make no adequate return, just so far he has lost independence and is demoralized. How easy may it be for our poor friend, depressed, ignorant and unthinking, to fall into the habit of considering it his rich neighbor's *duty* to take care of him!

But to return to our cold pieces. Having selected a recipient who will not be injured by our gift, let us make it still surer by our method of bestowal. It will all depend upon the impression made upon the recipient's mind. Better far, if some little task shall have earned the food before it is given; but, at all events, let it come in such shape that he shall know that you respect your gift yourself. Do not huddle it together, a mussy heap of incongruous stuffs, thrown in a black tin pan or at the bottom of an old basket; but place it in an attractive form on a nice, clean dish, with accompanying accessories of clean napkin or cover of some kind; and all the better if a kindly hint go with it as to the best way of re-cooking. To return dish and napkin will cost your poor friend but little trouble, and by your painstaking you have shown him a degree of respect which will help him to respect himself, instead of making him feel as though he had served in the capacity of temporary slop-bucket. Why may not every gift to the poor be raised above the idea of a mere dole, and made a "means of grace" to both giver and receiver, by expressing on one side and awakening on the other a sense of personal friendliness and good will?

On whatever side we approach this great subject of charity, with intent to find a remedy for existing evils, we inevitably come to the one solvent—Education. The benevolent and prosperous class has need of larger and clearer views, as well as the dependent and miserable. On this important subject of waste we must patiently work and wait till just ideas can ripen into wiser practices. In time people will learn that domestic economy is one vital condition of building up a great social fabric. Frugality and thrift in a million homes will make a strong and prosperous nation. Has not France been lifted out of the depression which followed war and anarchy by those economical national habits which have their birth in the household, and which accustom people to turn to best account those things which their English and American neighbors throw aside as useless? When our comfortable country-

women set the example of economy to their poorer neighbors by practicing themselves and teaching to their cooks such principles of kitchen thrift as may be learded at the cooking-schools now springing up, when the mothers and daughters of a poorer class learn the same things in our ward-houses and kitchen-gardens, there will be no beggar children knocking at our back gates, and one great element of waste will be conserved. Then we shall learn that, for morals as well as for money, "better is a penny saved than a penny earned."

In view of the value of Mrs. Mumford's paper, both to the rich and poor, it was referred to the Directors with request for publication.

The topic of the evening,

INTEMPERANCE IN ITS RELATION TO PAUPERISM,

being announced for discussion, a carefully prepared paper, by Samuel P. Godwin, Esq., President of the FRANKLIN REFORMATORY HOME FOR INEBRIATES (who was prevented from being present), was read by the General Secretary, Mr. Kellogg.

Mr. Godwin considered that "The poor ye have always with you" will be true of the future, as of the past. Could we substitute virtue for vice, and industry for laziness, there would still be causes for poverty. Accident, disease, bodily and mental deformity, and the various inequalities of society, are beyond control of the wisest human effort, and these are fruitful sources of poverty. We must conclude that poverty is ordered by Infinite Wisdom as one of the conditions of life. This we can only alleviate, but poverty born of vice we must endeavor to prevent. It is a great drawback in our warfare against it that we have no reliable statistics on which to base intelligent action. Neither do our own or European Government-reports sufficiently analyze the causes. We should be greatly aided if we had a faithful record of them traced out in each case to its innocent or guilty cause.

He believed that more than half our American pauperism is due to intemperance. Of 60 persons, black and white, dirty, vicious and lazy, whom he once found occupying a single room in the 4th Ward, every one was a pauper through intemperance. Of 1263 inmates of the House of Correction at one time, over 900 were paupers from intemperance as a direct cause. In the Franklin Reformatory Home for Inebriates, pauperism has in every case been traced to intemperance. Our knowledge of this vice, without the aid of classified facts, enables us to assert that abject poverty is the inevitable result of intemperance, and the laws on every statute book recognize this truth.

A Commission of Inquiry into the results of the manufacture and sale of alcohol in the United States has been proposed to Congress. He urged this Society to advocate the measure. Political and social science cannot afford to be ignorant on this topic. Such inquiry, properly conducted, would be a national blessing, and would put a powerful weapon in the hands of social reformers. We want a scientific knowledge of the proportion which pauperism caused by intemperance bears to that caused by other vices, and to that inevitable to our social life. Then only can we strike intelligently.

Pauperism is at least 3,000 years old. Begging was bold and persistent when Homer lived, as we may infer from his story of Irus. Sturdy, servile mendicants thronged about the chariots of the great, annoying them by their importunities, as do their probable descendants of modern Italy. Amongst the Fakirs of India, beggary and saintliness were synonymous; poverty was a virtue and beggary a worthy practice. Poverty was made popular by monasticism and mendicant religious orders, and bad and lazy people joined these orders from motives of gain. A race of beggars, our modern Gypsies, have come down to our times from these Indian Fakirs, who were probably the camp followers of the Goths, and other Asiatic hordes, which overran Europe in the early centuries.

Martin Luther edited in 1528 a book (*Liber Vagatorum*) which, though itself imperfect, puts to shame the modern analyses of pauperism. It describes all kinds of beggars and impostors, the unfortunate, the unworthy, and the professional. With the Gypsies, and like vagrants, begging seems to have become a natural instinct during centuries of mendicancy. It would be useful to know how far intemperance tends to produce such an hereditary vagrant class. The cure of such vagrancy must be found in the strict enforcement of law, and in the powerful forces of modern civilization, education and moral influences. The prevention of pauperism that is not vagrant, will lie chiefly in attacks upon intemperance.

Four-fifths of our pauperism would disappear with the abolition of alcoholic drinks; the treatment of the remaining fifth would be simple. The alcoholic liquors in the United States, drunk as a beverage, have annually cost over 500,000,000 of dollars for several years. Add to this the value of labor lost, the grain destroyed, the cost of caring for the sick, the insane and the idiots, the criminals, courts, police and legal machin-

ery, chargeable to drink, and we see that the cost is stupendous! The moral losses cannot be estimated, but every citizen feels their mighty weight! We spent in 1870 \$500,000,000 to produce a pauperism which it cost an additional \$12,000,000 annually to support! Emphatically a bad bargain. We renew it every year that intemperance is allowed to exist! In 1874 Pennsylvania spent \$1,500,000 to support her paupers, and fifty millions to make more paupers! We import into the United States annually \$75,000,000 worth of wines and liquors, or five times more value than would be required to support all the paupers of the country. After the value drunk by the wealthy is deducted, there remains a sum expended by the poorer classes, one-half of which, if diverted from the liquor traffic, would support and educate all the paupers in the land.

Moderate drinking is the bane of the working classes. It undermines their moral principles. As wages increase with prosperous times so does the moderate drinking of the grog shops. The maximum of drunkenness, as shown by the police reports, occurs on the pay days of the week, and gradually reaches the minimum six days afterwards. This proves that it is not lack of employment, nor misfortune, that makes our pauperism, but indulgence in alcohol. Crime goes hand in hand with drunkenness. The Mayor reported in 1878, that of 8,443 in the House of Correction, 4,941 were habitually intemperate, 1,379 occasionally so, 595 moderate drinkers, and only 1,528 abstemious! It has been estimated that 80 to 90 per cent. of crime is due to intemperance, and that 95 per cent of juvenile criminals are the children of ignorant, vicious or drunken parents, and drunkenness inevitably leads to ignorance and vice.

There is little native pauperism among us. The sober immigrants from Ireland, or Germany, or elsewhere, have built our railroads and our cities; the drinking immigrants have filled our prisons, our almshouses, and our hospitals. In 1870 we had 1 pauper to every 150 inhabitants; Europe, 1 to 10 in some of the least favored countries; and 1 in 40 in the more favored. In England formerly the whipping post failed even to check this evil. We now know that education of the head, the heart and the hand, to the elevating of individual character, is the remedy. Here, in the United States, we have unlimited means for mental and moral education, as well as unlimited means to support life for all who will use them. And if we can but suppress the abuse of intoxicating liquors, we shall have around us all the influences which create in men the moral purpose and integrity of good citizens. It only remains for us to see, as far as we may, that our superior material advantages and educational and moral influences are not overcome by those vices which, however they may be excused or palliated in older and more densely populated countries, can only be looked upon as a needless disgrace in a nation so young, so vigorous, so free and so God blessed as our own.

Mr. Joshua L. Bailly agreed with Mr. Godwin as to the lack of full and reliable statistics. We need them in dealing with opponents who accuse us of exaggeration when we represent the evils of intemperance. But to our Visitors the empty larders, naked floors, neglected children and the general wretchedness of drunkards' homes are better evidence than any array of statistics as to the poverty that comes from strong drink.

The consumption of intoxicating liquors represents just so much waste, and waste is always followed by want. It is difficult to realize the magnitude of this waste. During the late war of the Rebellion the loyal states spent collectively and separately over \$6,000,000,000, and the Confederate states about \$3,000,000,000 more, a total of \$9,000,000,000,—an enormous sum. Yet in the sixteen years since the war the people of the United States have spent in intoxicating liquors a sum of money even larger than this by \$1,000,000,000. The amount of grain used in this country every year in the manufacture of intoxicating liquors is said to be forty million bushels. If made into bread it would supply a pound loaf to each family in the land on everyday in the year.

But it is not only the destruction of so much that is intended to sustain life, but its conversion into that which destroys life that is so much to be deplored. It appears from the census that the average value of farm land in the United States is about \$27 per acre. Every five cent drink of liquor represents nine square yards of land of average quality; and a man taking three glasses a day swallows the value of a square acre of land every six months. A man who spends ten cents a day for beer will have at the end of ten years twenty-seven empty barrels to show for it; while another saving up the same daily sum would have at the end of the ten years enough to buy a comfortable home, to say nothing of the difference in the health and thrift and moral character of the men resulting from their different habits.

Philadelphia has about six thousand places where liquors are retailed. Supposing these do an average business of \$4,000 per annum (a low estimate) the sum total in a year is \$24,000,000 spent by our people for liquors; a sum equal to the annual rental of all the real estate in the city.

We have been trying to stop this wilful waste, and the evils which flow from it, by what is called the "License System." In his opinion, this license system instead of diminishing, encourages intemperance by giving to the traffic the support and authority of law. We have tried this system for at least 200 years and everywhere it has proved a failure. It is equally a failure as a source of revenue, as the amount received for license is but a small sum compared with the expense and loss which the traffic entails upon the community. He had come to the conclusion that the only way to get rid of evil fruits was to root up the tree that produced them. He did not speak for the Society, or for any one but himself, when he declared that the only radical remedy for intemperance was the prohibition of the traffic that produced it. He knew that prohibitory laws were objected to as interfering with personal liberty and impracticable. There is no such thing as personal liberty except among savages. In every civilized community personal liberty is restrained, and is made to depend largely upon the interest and welfare of those around us; and in just so much as one yields his own freedom, in just so much has he a right to claim protection from the licentiousness or lawlessness of others. We have laws intended to protect birds and fishes from those who would entrap them, and we have a right to even greater protection for our children.

It is said that Prohibitory laws are impracticable, that they cannot be enforced. But the experience of Maine proves to the contrary. Intemperance was a very common condition there before the enactment of their prohibitory laws; but to-day, except in one or two of the cities, sobriety is almost universal. In some parts of the state there are grown up men and women who never saw a drunkard, and many of their jails and poor houses are empty. Potter county, in this state, where prohibition has been the law for twenty-five years, has shown similar results. Its jail is rarely occupied. Its criminal court meets and adjourns again and again without any business. The taxes are lower than in any part of the state, and pauperism is a thing almost unknown.

Prof. R. E. Thompson remarked upon the great prevalence of drunkenness in England under George I, through cheap gin, and the excise and license system devised by Sir Robert Walpole to counteract it. That system had done great good. A license to sell liquor does not express the State's approval, but its disapprobation, and its purpose to prevent cheap drunkenness. Our licenses cost too little. If instead of \$50 the price was \$500, there would be fewer saloons and less drunkenness.

As to Prohibition, with many others who had little abstract faith in it, he was willing to give it a fair trial, or support any measure which promised an alleviation of the mischief done by the unregulated sale. Worse than the impoverishment of purse and ruin of health by whiskey, are the ruin of family affection, the hardening of hearts even of mothers towards their infants. While prohibition had succeeded with a homogeneous people in the rural districts of Maine, in her large cities, and in Boston, it had not stopped the traffic, even under the most zealous officials. More probable would be its failure here, with our heterogeneous population—with whole wards full of foreigners with passionate hatred of such laws.

A great work may be done which new laws cannot do. Alcohol is the only door of escape from the dreariness of life for many. We should open other doors through intellectual cultivation, by public libraries, and other improving resorts. Without such appliances to rightly occupy the mind, prohibition might lead to worse indulgences.

As prohibition might fail other plans should be kept in mind. In Göteborg, Sweden, the law fixes the number of public houses by districts, and the right to open them is sold to the highest bidder. These rights were purchased and managed by an association in the interests of temperance. Other drinks besides intoxicants were sold, and no one who had "enough" could have any more. This plan was a success.

He advocated a really good license system, and sketched its features: (1) One place of sale to each 1,000 population. The more places the greater drunkenness, and our six thousand saloons only live by forcing their wares by free lunches and cheap provocatives of thirst. (2) Licenses should be sold to the highest bidder, and the buyer would see that he was not interfered with. (3) Licensees to make a large deposit with the city to secure their observance of the laws, and if a man violates the law, instead of fining him close his shop and confiscate his deposit. (4) Hold dealers responsible for all mischief done to the families of drunkards they make, the deposit being secured damages.

Dr. James W. Walk, of the 15th ward, said that while intemperance is the cause of a large proportion of pauperism, frequently the relation is reversed, and the destitution is the cause of the drunkenness. The difficulties and discouragements of the poor man are often appalling. Born with but feeble powers of mind and body, and illy trained in their use, he finds himself in middle life without skill, influence or hope of advancement, and earnings barely sufficient to maintain life. His surroundings are indeed dark. Turning to his home for comfort, he finds a sickly,

fretful wife, dirty, disobedient, crying children. It is easy to say that this man should bravely bear his burdens. This is his duty, but a duty which often requires heroism, and alas! there are few heroic souls. In these hours of dreadful depression the temptation to drink becomes terrible. It is folly and madness, but in despair he clutches at the temporary oblivion. There are men so manacled by drink that their rescue is hopeless; but there are many who stand on the borders of this valley of the shadow of death, and these may be saved. Often we will find that when the home is made happy, and a cheerful wife and smiling children greet the husband, he will stay with them and abandon the saloon. A happy home is the palladium of all moral virtues.

Here the Visitors of our Society are doing a noble work. Their ministrations brighten dark homes and reanimate with hope hearts that are nearly broken; and the man who has joy and hope needs not to seek oblivion. Thus by curing destitution, we do much to check intemperance; and by inciting to noble ambition, and awakening the higher affections, we strike at the very root of the evil.

Dr. C. E. Cadwalader, of 5th ward, thought there were possibilities of securing a prohibitory law that never existed before. With no homogeneous population, Kansas has just adopted a constitutional prohibition for the same reason that Maine did—it had the right men to carry it through. He had heretofore opposed prohibition from a conviction that it was impossible to secure and enforce it, and from observation abroad; but now he was of opinion that we must adopt and test it, and if it fails we can then apply a more discriminating license. Where prohibition has been conscientiously applied, crime has decreased in proportion.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, Judge W. S. Peirce, of 10th Ward, urged that the subject be continued at a future meeting, and the interest being unabated, it was

Ordered that a special adjourned meeting be held on the 16th inst., for the farther consideration of the subject. The meeting then adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE

INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The work of the last year has taken two directions—the substitution of friends for alms, and the substitution of work for alms. These two efforts must always be united; and the motto of the "Associated Charities" be "not alms, but work and friends." In the present disorganized condition of labor there is much for us to do, before the conditions of happy and self-dependent life are met.

Here we have been reasonably successful in providing temporary work for men and boys, and in substituting work for relief. The Friendly-Inn Wood-Yard has been an employment agency as well; the application for men and boys for permanent places being frequent.

For women, also, a limited provision has been made in work as substituted for relief. But there remains untouched and unprovided for that large class of women who depend upon washing for support. This class are rarely good washers, and in the winter, especially, average only about two to three dollars per week in wages. They live in single rooms or remote houses, without suitable arrangements for their work. Any one who has seen in the old European cities the public washing places, can appreciate the help which such public provision could be to this class of working women. It is impossible in a little, smoky and dirty room to do good work. The 6th ward work-rooms in Boston have done a noble work in industrial education in laundry work, and in the provision of a public washing place. It is their success that has suggested the movement toward an

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL LAUNDRY.

Such an enterprise must embody the following features: 1. A provision of place and appliances, of soap, starch, etc., for the use of washer-women, for which payment should be made proportioned to the size of the washing and the amount received therefor; 2. An experienced laundress to supervise all work done and give careful instruction; 3. When a sufficient number of women have been educated, it could become a commercial laundry; and, soliciting work from the public, should endeavor during the winter to give a limited amount of work, say one dollar per week to such women as the District Committee find needy and worthy.

The cost of such a building and its appliances, large enough to accommodate twelve to fifteen women at once, is estimated at \$1000. The generous response made by the public to all these schemes which look toward the permanent improvement of the poor makes us confident that the needed funds will be forthcoming.

The following report of a committee appointed to prepare a plan for such a laundry was submitted at the April meeting of the Conference:

"To be practical the laundry must be located in such a quarter as to be accessible to the greatest number of women depending on laundry work for a support. The rooms should be large, well ventilated and supplied with stationary tubs, dry rooms, etc. Water from the city water works is most practicable. To accommodate women whose little children cannot be properly cared for at their homes, a Day Nursery should be established. The usual fee, five cents per day should be charged. A competent woman should be employed to take care of the children. The whole enterprise should be controlled by a committee appointed by the Benevolent Society.

"When Order work in large quantities is received, the services of an experienced laundress will be necessary. On inquiry we learn that such service is sometimes difficult to procure. We recommend, therefore, for the beginning, that women bring their own work, and pay a commission for the use of the laundry. The privilege of the use of the laundry may be given to one or more, if necessary, in return for keeping rooms neat and clean. Under the proposed arrangement a limited amount of work could be received and given to competent work-women. Soap and starch could be furnished at cost. In the opinion of your committee the best location of the laundry would be on the west side.

"We recommend the erection of a frame building 36x100 feet, with 12 feet ceiling, and containing seven rooms, viz.: 2 rooms for children, 2 reception rooms, office, wash room and ironing room (see plan). The wash room should not be plastered, and the floor should be slightly depressed to a drain in the centre. It should contain a laundry stove with dry room attachment (see cut of Van's Portable Laundry stove). There will be needed 2 wringers, 11 washboards, 2 starch kettles, 22 stationary tubs, to which water, both hot and cold, can be conveyed, and from which it can be conducted by means of pipes. The Mott Laundry stove is considered best for ironing purposes. The large size will cost \$38, and will accommodate fifty irons. Four tables, 2 clothes racks, 10 ironing boards, and 36 irons, will furnish the ironing room. The office and children's rooms will require 2 tables, 6 chairs, 2 stoves, 2 cribs or beds, 1 washstand with a few small chairs and toys. Ground should be reserved for a playground. The approximate cost of internal arrangement of building is \$550.

The above plan we consider economical and possible. A well-regulated laundry will indeed be a precious boon to discouraged and over-taxed women. Industry will be encouraged and self-reliance established. From frequent observation of wholesome rules, habits of neatness and order may be induced which they will carry into their homes. We recommend the opening of the laundry at a very early day. Many women will be able to reduce their fuel account for the summer thereby, and be in better condition for the next winter.

JULIA H. GOODHEART, }
 BELLE S. FORD, } Committee.
 SARAH WALLACE. }
 OSCAR C. McCULLOCH.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 30.

LETTER FROM THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.

This organization, which dates from June 1, 1878, brings into co-operation the "New Haven Aid Society," "City Missionary Society," "United Workers," "Trinity Chapel Mission," "Home of the Friendless," "Temperance Home of Christian Women," "New Haven Orphan Asylum," and "New Haven Dispensary," each entitled to three representatives.

Prompt and thorough investigation is made into all cases of want, sickness, or distress reported to the officers of the Board by the associated Societies contributors, or others, and where the need proves urgent temporary relief is given at once. If a case proves to be one in which the town or city authorities have a responsibility, they are called upon for its relief to the fullest extent of that responsibility. If it be a case for one of the constituent societies, or which appeals to some church, or individual, it is referred accordingly, with a statement of the facts.

The Board does not undertake on its own account the work of any existing agency. Yet there are times when it becomes necessary to administer relief, especially in the summer, when some of the agencies are in a measure inoperative.

To deal with tramps was one of the first undertakings, and a judicious plan is now being carried out with success. Lodgings and meals are now being furnished at fixed rates: Lodgings, breakfast and supper, 10 cents each; dinner, 15 cents—*payable in work at the wood yard*. To saw and split a quarter cord, or to split a half cord, pays for a day's board and a night's lodging.

Work is also provided for all the unemployed, so far as possible, and registers of willing workers and possible employers are kept at the office.

When relief is granted without work it is always of the simplest kind, and meant only to meet immediate and urgent want. Houseless women and children are temporarily sheltered till otherwise provided for. Permanent self-support is the end to which all efforts in behalf of able-bodied applicants are directed. A wardrobe is kept for contributions of new and old garments, to be distributed to the needy and sick through the various societies, or directly from the office.

Connected with the work is a Mother's Meeting, held every Wednesday afternoon, in one of the rooms at 47 Court Street, where a number of ladies of the city give instruction in the making over of garments and other useful things. A Children's Training School is also held every Saturday morning from 10 to 12 o'clock, where children of the poorer families (and any who choose to attend) are met by a number of young ladies and instructed in sewing, mending and cutting out clothing, arranging furniture, setting table, washing dishes, and everything useful and necessary to make home cheerful and pleasant.

Careful registration is maintained and Investigation Cards are used according to accepted Charity Organization methods. A corps of volunteer Visitors, mostly ladies, has been organized, for friendly calls upon the poor. These Visitors do not give aid, but such sympathy and advice, if possible, as shall make further giving unnecessary.

Our only paid officers are the bookkeeper, who is always on duty at the Central Office, and the investigating agent, who attends to all outside work.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

Our Boston Organization has now existed for two years. By its system of registration, it is a clearing house of all relief given by all agencies and persons, and of all information collected by them. Its work is two-fold, gathering information and giving it.

"First. It collects reports of all relief, and of all information, by daily, weekly or monthly returns, and posts them upon cards kept in alphabetical order. The returns from each society or person are put on a separate card; and all the cards relating to one family, are fastened together.

"Second. The other branch of our work gives to the whole its chief value. The Office mails to any society or person who reports relief, or is asked to give relief to any case, a prompt reply—called a duplication—stating what other relief is given, and by whom. Each society and person, before relieving a case, is entitled to know this. So only can you find out fraud and stop excessive alms, and decide wisely on the kind and quantity of relief to continue. Sometimes too much relief is given, sometimes too little. The essence of the plan is to secure exact knowledge of the facts, and so to add to the judgment and joy of the gift.

"This feature of our registration work is believed to be peculiar, and it well deserves the study of other large cities. Few, if any, persons have failed to be convinced of the wisdom and helpfulness of this office, after reporting relief and receiving promptly back a full statement of all other relief to the same case. The number of private persons who register is rapidly increasing, as the advantages of the information they receive are becoming known and appreciated. Of course the number of those who do not register is still large, and a few societies still decline.

"Our system is substantially co-extensive with our city limits. In each of fifteen districts a Conference has been formed, a large number of friendly Visitors are at work, and in nine of these districts permanent paid agents are employed.

I. THE CONFERENCE

is composed of all workers among the poor of the district. It meets every week or two, for a large part of the year. It chooses an Executive Committee of persons, interested and experienced in the work. Visitors report, usually in person, about their cases to the Conference, which consults and advises what action to take. Visitors of churches and of relieving agencies are fast learning how helpful it is to compare notes about families, and to get advice as to what action is wise and how to secure it.

II. FRIENDLY VISITORS.

Friendly visitors may be called both the soul and the hands, as the Conference is the brains of our new work. Not that Visitors need no brains; they need all they have, both for the family they visit and to give to the counsels of the Conference, but they are especially the hands to do this divine work and certainly they are its life and soul and inspiration. Without them charity is dead, machinery is hard, and organization impotent for good.

III. THE HELP OF A TRAINED AGENT

is soon felt to be a necessity in this work of Volunteer Visitors among

the poor. Prohibited from giving alms, the work of really improving the condition of a family is often very hard. Visitors ask in despair what they are to do and how to accomplish it. Even when the object to aim at is clear, the way to bring it about is hard to find. For every thousand families needing relief, one agent will always be wanted to give his whole time to the work of helping them to become independent.

"The Associated Charities do not try to do, or mean to do, all the charity work of the city. Far from it. Rather to learn all the agencies, and to make them known to all (as by our Directory of Charities), so that each agency may do its own peculiar work in its own best way. A wonderful economy of agencies is thus effected, and each, devoting itself to fewer cases, can be thorough in them.

"To stop street begging and street giving, the City government provides a Temporary Home, always open, for women and children, and a Wayfarers' Lodge, where bed and food and bath are always ready for men, to be paid for by a stent of wood-sawing in the morning.

"Our sixteen truant-officers, charged with carrying out our system of compulsory education, are doing invaluable work among the children, not only keeping them at school, but watching them, knowing their homes and parents, and exerting a constant influence, rescuing neglected children from homes of vice.

STUDY OF INTEMPERANCE.

One of the Ward Conferences of the Boston Associated Charities has issued the following circular to its visitors.

CONCERNING DRUNKENNESS.

"It has seemed to the Conference very desirable to collect facts through which we may learn to what extent drunkenness may be looked upon as a cause of pauperism in our ward; what causes may be assigned for it; and what means can best be taken for combating it

"You will assist in this work by reporting, with regard to the family which you may visit:—what members, if any, drink; to what extent; what is the effect of the habit on their characters, and ability to work; and what in each of them are the causes, either remote or immediate, which have led to the vice.

"The chief remote causes are likely to be:—1. An inherited tendency either to drunkenness itself, or to some other form of nervous disease, such as epilepsy, insanity and the like.

"The chief secondary or immediate causes:—1. Bad example in youth; 2. The habit of taking liquor in sickness; 3. Conviviality; 4. Exposure to cold or wet during work; 5. The desire for some warm stimulating drink at meal times; 6. Desire to bring about temporary forgetfulness of present distressing surroundings.

"It is specially important to obtain exact information about causes 5 and 6, since it seems that something might be done to remove them, and for this purpose it is desirable to know, if possible, at just what hour in the day the drink is usually taken.

"Any suggestions as to these, or any other points connected with the subject, will be welcome. Of course it is not meant that information on all these points should be elicited by direct questions, or within any particular place or time; but only such facts as can be gathered in the natural course of the visit should be reported as they are learned."

NOTES.

A Swede wisely replied to an Englishman, when he asked if it was not costly to take children off the streets and highways and place them in special schools, as is done in that land, where illiteracy is almost unknown: "Yes, it is costly, but not dear. We Swedes are not rich enough to let a child grow up in ignorance, misery and crime, to become a scourge to society, as well as a disgrace to themselves."

Coffee Houses for Workingmen.—A second organization called the Metropolitan Coffee House Society (Limited) has been formed in New York for the purpose of establishing coffee houses for the working classes. The incorporators are J. G. Holland, Charles Watrous, Francis B. Thurber, L. Murray Ferris, Jr., J. N. Stearns, Franklin Allen, James Talcott, F. W. Downer, Bleecker von Wagener and William Abbott. The society proposes to rent suitable property below Grand street, and erect thereon a four-story building, in which it will establish a library and reading room, and in which lectures and other entertainments may be given, in addition to the sale of refreshments and beverages not of an intoxicating nature. The capital stock is placed at \$25,000, in shares of \$25 each. Other houses will be opened when the success of the first has been demonstrated. It is intended to make only a small profit on refreshments. The plans and objects of the society are similar to those of like associations in England.

New York Home for Prison Birds.—Michael Dunn's Home of Industry occupies an old, but very clean, house at 305 Water Street, where it provides shelter for homeless men. Most of its patrons are from the prisons, some from the streets, but all are without friends, without occupation and without money. No matter what a man's record may be, Mr. Dunn gives him a supper, a lodging and a breakfast, and sets him at work. If he continues to be industrious he keeps him until he finds a place; but if he is lazy or deceitful he turns him out. Mr. Dunn himself was born of parents who were professional thieves, has spent a number of terms in prison, and knows the dark side of life with which he is called upon to deal by a sad personal experience. Employment by the Prison Association interested him in the welfare of friendless men, and his desire to help this class led to the establishment of the house of which he is now the Superintendent. The record which he has kept of the men whom he has helped is evidence of a thoroughly useful and valuable work.

Don't be afraid of work.—Don't be afraid of killing yourself with over work, son. Men seldom work so hard as that on the sunny side of thirty. They die some times, but it is because they quit work at 6 p.m., and don't get home until 2 a. m. It's the intervals that kill, my son. The work gives you an appetite for your meals; it lends solidity to your slumber; it gives you a perfect and grateful appreciation of a holiday. There are young men who do not work, my son; young men who make a living by sucking the end of a cane, and who can tie a neck-tie in eleven different knots, and never lay a wrinkle in it; who can spend more money in a day than you can earn in a month, son; and who will go to the sheriff's to buy a postal card, and apply at the office of the Street Commissioners for a marriage license. So find out what you want to be and to do, son, and take off your coat and make success in the world. The busier you are the less evil you will be apt to get into, the sweeter will be your sleep, the brighter and happier your holiday, and the better satisfied will the world be with you.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

Munificent bequest for the Blind in England.—The late Mr. H. T. Gardner, formerly M. P. for Windsor, by his will, gave legacies to three institutions for the benefit of blind persons, and also directed his trustees to set apart a sum of £300,000, free of legacy duty, and declared that his intention was that it should be applied for the benefit of blind persons in England and Wales, by instructing them in suitable trades, handicrafts and professions, especially in the profession of music, by providing pensions for poor and deserving blind persons residing as aforesaid, who may be incapable of earning their livelihood, and generally in such other manner as the committee shall from time to time think best." The trustees differing as to whether the principle of founding a new institution, or of helping old ones, should prevail in settling the scheme, the trust was taken into court, and it has been decided that the fund should be applied in helping existing institutions, because in founding a new separate institution, and merging the fund in bricks and mortar, and other ways, instead of assisting those established and shown to be useful, there would be great loss.

Another Aid to Thrift.—In reply to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Fawcett (Postmaster General) recently said that Messrs. Bass, the well-known brewers, had made application that a clerk from the post office should attend at the brewery when the men were being paid, in order to receive savings bank deposits, and had promised that Messrs. Bass should pay all the expenses to which the department might be put in consequence. He cordially assented to that arrangement being carried out, and it had now been for some weeks in operation, and if any other firm made a similar proposal he should be most happy to give effect to it so far as the resources of the local post offices would allow. "The wonder is," remarks the *Standard*, "that this idea has not occurred before to the benevolent individuals who preach the gospel of thrift." "But," it adds, "if the plan of gathering in savings bank deposits at the doors of factories is ever to be developed in a healthy way, it ought not to be organized on charitable principles. The post office ought to be able to bear the cost of giving effect to a proposal of this kind, if it be really worth while to carry it out in actual operation to any great extent."

THE following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 9 }
WHOLE NO. 21 }

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 15, 1881.

{ TERMS. 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1802 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1802 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL JULY 15TH.

Monday, July 11, 3.30 P. M., Board of Directors.

The Assembly Meetings are suspended until September 5th.

The Women's General Conference is suspended until October 4th.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Whose copies are marked against this article, are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With you the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

GET YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other subscribers.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES.

BOSTON, JULY 25-30, 1881.

The Eighth Annual Session of the NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION will meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives, State House, Boston, at 10 A. M., July 25th, 1881, and will continue in session six days. The following is the order of business, so far as can now be announced:

At 10 A. M. Address of Welcome, by His Excellency Governor Long, of Massachusetts.

At 11 A. M. Address of the retiring President, Mr. F. B. Sanborn, of Massachusetts.

At 12 M. Reports from the States represented in the Conference.

At 4 P. M. A Report from the Committee on the Work of Boards of State Charities, by Gen. Brinkerhoff, of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee, followed by a discussion.

At 8 P. M. A special Paper from the same Committee on the "Utility of State Boards," read by Hon. George S. Robinson, of Illinois, and followed by a discussion.

TUESDAY, JULY 26.

At 9 A. M. Reports from the States continued.

At 10 A. M. A Report from the Committee on Organization of Charities in Cities, followed by a Discussion.

At 12 M. A special Paper from the same Committee, on "Out-Door Relief in the United States," read by Seth Low, Esq., of Brooklyn, N. Y., and followed by a discussion.

At 3 P. M. Visits to the City Charities of Boston.

At 8 P. M. A Paper by Mrs. Josephine Shaw Lowell, of New York, "Considerations concerning a Better System for the Public Charities and Corrections of a City."

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27.

At 9 A. M. Final Reports from the States.

At 10 A. M. A report from the Committee on Immigration, read by the Secretary, Dr. Charles S. Hoyt, of New York, and followed by a Discussion.

At 12 M. A special Paper from the same Committee, followed by a discussion.

At 3 P. M. Visits to State Charitable Establishments in the vicinity of Boston.

At 8 P. M. Report of the Statistical Secretary, Rev. F. H. Wines, of Illinois.

THURSDAY, JULY 28.

At 10 A. M. A Report from the Committee on Crime and Penalties, presented by the Chairman, Prof. Wayland, of Connecticut, and followed by a Discussion.

At 11.30 A. M. A special Paper from the same Committee, followed by a Discussion.

At 1.30 P. M. A visit to the Reformatory Prison for Women at Sherborn, followed by a visit to the State Prison at Concord, if desired.

FRIDAY, JULY 29.

At 10 A. M. A Report from the Committee on Preventive Work among Children, followed by a Discussion.

At 12 M. A special Report by the Auxiliary Visitors of Massachusetts, on the "Care of Friendless Girls," followed by a Discussion.

At 3 P. M. Visits to the Public and Private Reformatories in Boston and its vicinity.

At 8 P. M. An Evening Session for the Business of the Conference.

SATURDAY, JULY 30.

At 9 A. M. A Session for Business.

At 10 A. M. A Report from the Committee on Imbecility and Idiocy, presented by the Chairman, Dr. H. B. Wilbur, of New York, and followed by a discussion.

At 12 M. A special Paper on the "Care of Epileptics," presented by the same Committee.

There will be no afternoon or evening session on Saturday, and the closing business of the Conference will be transacted at the sessions on Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of States, and Delegates specially appointed to represent States or Provinces, and all members of Boards of Charities and Prison Commissions are *ex officio* members of the Conference. All persons officially connected with State or municipal charitable, penal or reformatory establishments, who attend in that capacity, are also members of the Conference; and all persons regularly delegated to represent private charitable organizations, are admitted as members on presenting their credentials. All other persons interested in charitable work are invited to be present.

F. B. SANBORN, of Massachusetts,
President of the Conference.

DILLER LUTHER, of Penna., JAMES O. FANNING, of New York,
H. B. WHEELWRIGHT, of Mass., GEORGE C. HOWE, of Connecticut,
A. G. BYERS, of Ohio, HENRY W. LORD, of Michigan,
H. H. GILES, of Wisconsin, C. S. WATKINS, of Iowa,
GEORGE S. ROBINSON, of Illinois, C. F. COFFIN, of Indiana,
C. E. FAULKNER, of Kansas, T. N. HASKELL, of Colorado,
W. M. BECHNER, of Kentucky, W. E. SAUNDERS, of Texas,
J. E. NORTH, of Nebraska.

Boston, June 4, 1881.

Secretaries of the Conference.

DEATH OF DR. H. LENOX HODGE.

Since the beginning of the movement for the establishment of Charity Organization in Philadelphia our Society has met with no calamity more severe than the death of Dr. H. Lenox Hodge, the President of our Assembly and of our Central Board of Directors, which took place on Friday morning, the 10th of June. Dr. Hodge was enlisted in the cause almost at its very inception. The public meeting at which the plan was adopted occurred not long after the sudden death of his lovely and much loved wife. We believe that he took up this new burden, not only because of his earnest approval of our Society's principles, but from a desire to relieve the bitterness of his personal grief by the distraction of work for others. He was chosen at that meeting one of the Commission to establish the Society, having consented previously to serve in this capacity. The Commission chose him a member of its Executive Committee, thus devolving upon him a good share of the direct work of Ward organization. After this had been effected he became the presiding officer of the (representative) Central Board, to which each Ward sent two delegates. When it was found necessary to supersede this Central Board by the present Board of Directors, Dr. Hodge became by general consent the presiding officer both of the Board and of the Assembly, and was re-elected to both positions after his first year of service. He was indefatigable in his attention to the duties of both offices, and his last public act performed when already passing into the shadow of an illness that proved mortal, was to preside at the regular meeting of the Directors on the evening of April 11th. His uniform kindness, his inexhaustible courtesy, his ready tact, and his devotion to the work combined to make him such a presiding officer as is rarely seen. More than any other of our active workers, he stood at the head of the Society; and it will never be known how much we owed to his great qualities and his goodness of heart. Especially valuable to us was the evenness of his temper. He was never unduly elated by any show of success, never depressed by any appearance of defeat. His judgment in every situation was the soundest of all.

Our Society is but one of several circles out of which he will be missed. The Children's Hospital, the Presbyterian Hospital, and several other of our city charities share in our loss. The members of his profession mourn in him a man of whom they were justly proud. The large circle of his patients have lost each a personal friend, as well as a skilled and faithful physician. The University has lost one of her most zealous alumni, and at the same time one of her ablest teachers. The Second Presbyterian Church, in which he was an elder, knew him as a devout and humble Christian, whose life was in closest harmony with his profession. And outside and beyond all these organizations stand a great circle of friends and kinsmen, who feel that life has lost something that gave it warmth and interest in losing him. There are few men of his age—he was but 45—who have struck so many and such deep roots into the charities and the affections of the community.

The disease of which Dr. Hodge died was one of the heart. He had had the symptoms of its approach at least ever since the death of his wife. It was, however, developed by a severe attack of pneumonia, from which he was suffering for nine weeks before his death. He leaves one child, bearing his own name, who will be dear to many for his father's sake.

EDITORIAL.

FACTS AND DEDUCTIONS.

The utility of the principles of Organized Charity have been given great prominence in this community recently, because of a trial in court of a young woman on a charge of infanticide. The facts developed during the trial were, that the prisoner, a married woman, had been deserted by her husband, left homeless and penniless under circumstances, and in a condition, when home and money and the care of a husband were most needed. She was alone, a stranger in a great city. Her condition made her an object of charity, and should have ensured the administration of ample relief upon the first application, whether made to a citizen or to a "society." The truth is, however, that this poor woman, confronted by the very agonies of motherhood, applied at the offices of several institutions and Charity Societies and was refused assistance; she applied to several citizens, who likewise refused to provide for her necessities. No doubt each citizen to whom she applied will say—"had I known her condition I would have helped her." The institutions, from whose offices she was turned away empty, will say—"we are sorry, but we are established

for a specific work, and this woman could not be provided for under our rules."

These citizens and these institutions, however, are not blameless. The citizen is blamed for his lack of knowledge, and the institutions for the narrowness of their rules. These are old evils, long existent and well defined. Efforts have been made to cure them, and to secure such union and co-operation in the administration of charity, and in relieving the wants of the poor and unfortunate, as would make certain and intelligent provision for all classes of cases, but the efforts have been unsuccessful. About four years ago another attempt was made to establish an intelligent administration of charity, which resulted in the formation of the "Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity." There is no more astonishing fact developed by the efforts of this Society than the *amazing ignorance* that prevails as to its purposes and methods. But for this ignorance and its consequent folly such a case as that above cited could not have occurred at this time. This ignorance is not confined to classes; it pervades the community. It is in the pulpit, on the bench, in the counting-house, in the press, in the institutions, "homes," hospitals, charity societies, indeed in the management of some of our own Ward Associations.

We seek, first of all, to bring into friendly and active co-operation every society, institution, committee, agency, public and private, in the county of Philadelphia, existing for the care of the poor of whatever name, class or condition. We seek to have each know the locality, scope, purpose, nature and facilities of every other; to have established between them such relations that any person applying to either may be referred to such other as is designed for the care of the particular case, with the certainty that the reference will be respected. We seek to establish in every part of the city, offices to which persons and families may go and to which they may be referred, with the assurance that they will receive prompt attention and adequate relief. These offices are now Ward offices. If a citizen is applied to on the street, or at his home by one seeking relief, he is at liberty to make sufficient inquiry to satisfy his own judgment and to give accordingly, but under the theory of Organized Charity he is not at liberty to refuse assistance. If he does not grant full and adequate relief himself, he should direct the applicant to the nearest Ward office, where he should feel assured that it will be provided. If this course had been pursued in the case of the deserted wife, the first person to whom she applied would have put her in the way of receiving proper help. The "Rosine Home," the "Magdalen Asylum" and the "State Hospital for Women and Infants" are in co-operation with the "Society for Organizing Charity," and the woman would have been placed in one of these. It may be possible that through ignorance or gross carelessness, Ward offices will blunder. Old methods to be forgotten and new methods to be learned require time, patience and discipline. Much has been accomplished in three years, much more remains to be accomplished. Most of all, the general public must be educated to put "wisdom in charity," and our own volunteer workers and superintendents must study more closely the methods of the new movement and faithfully apply them in the administration of the Ward offices. We challenge the most thorough inquiry into the principles and methods of Organized Charity; but, to hold us responsible for the results of prejudice, ignorance and false reports, and for the misfortunes of persons who, because of these, go unaided, is on a par with holding the Judges of Quarter Sessions responsible for the continuance of the unlawful traffic in liquor on Sunday. They, as we, deal with what is brought before them, and their responsibility goes only to the cases passed upon. The fault for not bringing persons into court is elsewhere. So here.

WHAT NEED OF MONEY?

We are often asked by those who are unacquainted with the workings of our Organized Charity, "What need of money when you give no alms to the poor, and why sustain offices and pay Superintendents, when almost nothing goes to the poor themselves?" One case among many that have come to our knowledge deserves record, in order to answer these questions, which are often well meant.

In the report of the 6th ward for last year, is the case of a man, his wife and four children, all living wretchedly in one room. Both parents intemperate, the father working about enough to pay the rent (\$4 a month) and to supply himself with liquor. The Superintendent asked the woman if she sent her children to school. She replied that she could not because they must be on the streets all day to beg for the family living. This case has received attention for more than a year, with the

following results: The father is in the House of Correction, where he belongs. The mother is not yet reclaimed, but is more likely to be than when first found. But the children, all bright and promising, have been permanently rescued from hopeless vagrancy. They have been taken care of at the Ward house, fed, housed and trained in the schools before the habits of roaming the streets, picking up a penny here and there, had been confirmed. This wandering life has as strange a fascination for children, as any gipsy life has for those who easily prefer a lawless freedom and life in the open air, to any home life they are likely to know. The Superintendent made great exertions to find traces of any worthy relatives these children might have, and after much correspondence found a grandfather living in Wisconsin, who proved to be an excellent man, and who wrote that he would gladly adopt his little granddaughter if she could be sent to him; and he also sent \$10 for her transportation. The little Josephine, a bright and lovely little girl of six years, was taken by the Superintendent at midnight to the Pennsylvania Railroad Station and put into the care of the conductor, the General Manager of the road having kindly written notes to be handed by each conductor to the next, all the way to Wisconsin.

The grandfather sends a well written letter, in which he says :

"My child did arrive in the best spirits. The conductor handed me over a paper on which I found the signatures of the conductors of the different companies, showing that she had been properly cared for. Everybody was astonished at the little girl, and at the careful treatment of the same by the railway employees."

Then he goes on to express heartiest thanks to the Superintendent and her friends, speaks with enthusiasm of the public schools to which he shall send his little girl, and the earnest endeavor of his life to fit her for a life of usefulness.

This family are not yet all disposed of, but it has taken eighteen months of personal effort and care and correspondence, as well as the use of a considerable sum of money, to put them out of the reach of want, and to make them permanently self-supporting. And in the meantime our state and city are relieved from the peril and burden of one more pauper family and one young child is raised to a good life.

Which is the truer economy and the nobler charity, to pay the expense of maintaining a family in chronic beggary for a life time, with every reason to suppose their descendants will be like themselves, and "more so" or to spend a part of the same money in searching out the cause we know not, in breaking up a nest of paupers, and putting its members in the way of a decent life, or beyond the power of doing mischief?

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, though originally started as a representative and servant of the Philadelphia Society, has already been accepted as the official organ of the Charity Organizations in the five other cities above named, and others have the matter under consideration. This is in the true spirit of co-operation, and will naturally enrich the material and broaden the scope of the paper, as well as extend its influence and usefulness. By publishing the letters which each of the Societies undertakes to furnish, we hope to keep a wider public advised of all matters of interest in co-operative charity principles and methods, and to make the paper a medium of interchange and acquaintance among the workers.

NOTICE.—The friends of Organized Charity are informed that the Central Board will require about \$2,000 to carry it to 1st Oct. next. Contributions, large and small, are invited to meet this deficiency, and may be sent to

BENJ. H. SHOEMAKER, Treasurer,
209 N. 4th Street.

Or to either of the undersigned—

SAMUEL HUSTON,
PHILIP C. GARRETT,
DR. CHAS. E. CADWALADER,
THOMAS S. HARRISON,
Committee on Finance.

THE DIRECTORS of the 16th Ward Association, at their monthly meeting in May, placed on record a testimonial of respect to Mrs. Lizzie Be'air, one of their lady Visitors, in whose death "the Association loses the services and active interest of one who by her many acts of kindness and devotion had won the gratitude of the suffering and afflicted throughout the Ward." May many imitate so fair an example!

CHILDREN'S COUNTRY WEEK.

Of the whole circle of charities, none makes a more gracious and winning appeal, and none works a more real benefit, than that which gives to the poor children of our crowded cities a few summer days in the country. It is a practical application of all the best things that are being said and done about providing the conditions that are good for body, mind and morals—"a sort of salvation." Probably there are few parallels to the cases of the poor sewing woman, over 70 years old, who never left the city in her life till last summer; but there are many hundreds of children whose first acquaintance with the sweet fields, groves and streams has come to them from the "Country Week," and whose sense of joy and wonder opens like an unsealed fountain of life. They also make a saving acquaintance with humanity; they get new notions of industry; and they do not soon forget the lessons of a better way of living, which they have caught from their kind entertainers. Some of them will yet win country homes of their own.

From New York, where the *Evening Post* started the "Fresh Air Fund," more than four thousand children were sent out last summer for a fortnight, at a cost of about \$2.50 each. From Boston, according to the 6th annual report, 1377 were sent for a week at a cost of \$2.52 each. From Philadelphia, where the movement began in 1877, the average last year for 1378 children was nine days, at a cost of but \$2 each. The railway companies supplied transportation free, or at greatly reduced rates; at some of the farmers' homes children were made welcome as invited guests; but the chief item of expense was for board at a nominal price. It is doubtful if such a large addition to human happiness and welfare can often be made at so small an outlay.

In Philadelphia, the ladies who carry on the Country Week work have fixed their headquarters in the New Century Club Rooms, 1112 Girard Street, and are planning a lively campaign. There are three ways to co-operate, viz.: By helping to find the children, or poor invalid adults, who need the outing; by helping to find proper country homes; and by contributions sent to the Treasurer. Mrs. Hannah P. Baker is President, Mrs. Eliza S. Turner, Secretary; Mrs. Mary T. Gawthrop, Treasurer; and these, with about two dozen other true sisters of charity, aided by Dr. E. P. Jefferis, make up the Board of Managers. "Help those women."

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

MAY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

By request of the Assembly, 1,000 copies of Mrs. Mumford's paper on "Cold Pieces" were ordered to be printed for general distribution.

Subscriptions to the Register were announced—for 300 copies by the Associated Charities of Boston, 100 copies by the Detroit Association of Charities, and 86 copies by members of the Charity Organization Society of Indianapolis. Other Charity Organization Societies have similar measures under consideration, looking towards the adoption of the REGISTER as the official organ of the Charity Organization Societies of the United States.

A special meeting of the Directors was called on June 11th, in view of the death of the President of the Board. Mr. Vice-President Bailly gave official notice of the sad event, and arrangements were made to attend the funeral in a body. The following expression of the feelings of the Board was ordered to be entered upon the minutes, and to be sent to the family of the deceased President, and also to be furnished to the daily press for publication:—

"The Board of Directors of the Society for Organizing Charity desire "to express their deep sense of the loss the Society have sustained in the "death of their late President, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge. He was a man of "singular urbanity, dignity and beauty of character. His clear and even "judgment of every situation rendered him an invaluable member of our "Board; while in his unfailing courtesy and personal modesty he was "always ready to give the fullest consideration to opinions which differed "from his own. In purity of life, in unaffected piety, and in wise phil- "anthropy he was a shining example to the whole community. Such "men, possessing so remarkable a combination of fine qualities and "capacities, are rarely to be met. His associates in this Board unite in "recording their profound sense of his worth, and of their own great loss."

PHILIP C. GARRETT, Chairman.

Chas. D. Kellogg, Gen'l. Sec'y.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETINGS.

The adjourned meeting of the ASSEMBLY for the continued discussion of

INTEMPERANCE IN ITS RELATION TO PAUPERISM.

was held on the evening of May the 16th, Robert N. Willson, Esq., in the chair.

Judge Wm. S. Peirce (10th Ward), in opening the subject, dwelt upon the

MODES IN WHICH ITS PAUPERIZING EFFECTS ARE SEEN.

The drinking people of Philadelphia spend \$21,000,000 annually at the saloons. Doubtless as much more is drunk in the private houses. We have 5,000 licensed and 2,000 unlicensed tipping shops, or 1 to every 120 inhabitants. As not over half of this number are men and boys, and of these at least half never visit such resorts, we have an average of 30 men to support each saloon. How much must this diversion of \$21,000,000 impoverish the people, and especially as it comes largely from that working class which needs it the most for their wives and children. It not only absorbs their money, but it unnerves and weakens them, and takes away their energy and capacity for work. They are pauperized in pocket, mind and manhood. The hearts also of wife and children are robbed of the rich affections of home, and the man's own heart is made mean and poor indeed. This \$21,000,000 in two years, with the money in the Sinking Fund, would pay the City Debt, and in another year would pay for the City Buildings and pave all our main avenues with cubic blocks. And what comfort and relief would the sum bring to every poor family in Philadelphia.

This waste farther impoverishes every citizen. Our Prisons, Alms-house, House of Correction, House of Refuge, Courts, Police, etc., costing at least \$1,500,000 a year, are chiefly necessitated by this traffic. If this amount should be plainly stated as the "rum tax" upon our tax bills it would be more forcibly appreciated.

Viewing the whole country, the use of liquor costs us as much every two years as would pay the national debt, and every five years as much as the War of the Rebellion cost. In every 10 years as many lives are sacrificed by it as were by the war, and still the waste goes on. Should such a rebellion break out every five years we should dig up the cause by the roots, and destroy the promoters of it; but this wasteful and deadly traffic must be handled delicately; "we must not make sumptuary laws," they say. We do make and enforce sumptuary laws against oysters and shad, but musn't touch the dram shops.

Such reasoning shows that people have lost their heads. Were wild beasts invading our streets and threatening our children and friends, how soon would we exterminate them with musket and cannon; and this more dangerous pestilence should be treated in the same determined manner.

Rev. Charles G. Ames wished the discussion to throw

LIGHT ON OUR PRACTICAL WORK.

Intemperance produces pauperism by its indirect and cumulative effects on man himself, on his faculties and qualities. Physicians say that idiot children are commonly the offspring of intemperate parents, and there are all degrees of idiocy. Two men, a moderate drinker and an abstainer, both lived to a great age. Several of the drinker's descendants became sots; not one of the abstainer's. Habitual use of alcohol deteriorates the blood and nerve-matter, producing a lower type of human beings. Perhaps we all suffer from inherited disability. The appalling waste of resources is the least of the resulting evils. Pauperism comes less from poverty than from this partial dehumanization—inert faculties, mental disorder, disinclination for work, untrustworthiness, loss of credit, standing, motive, hope. Families and generations sink to a sub-human level. Not only among the poor, but in every rank are paupers in the making. Pauperism is the deposit, or *settlings*, of all vices and sensualisms.

In the treatment of drink-paupers each case must be studied by itself. Some can be helped by relieving their misery; some by improving their domestic conditions; some by human sympathy and an appeal to the spiritual nature; some should be sent to reformatories. There are cases where the family should be broken up, the parents sent to penal or correctional institutions, and the children placed in real homes.

Statistics may be exaggerated, but the facts are all one way; they show that the liquor business is only evil. But its extirpation by law requires a long, slow revolution of opinion and custom. By wise methods, and by moral forces of truth and love, *much can be done without prohibition*, as much has been done. That in time the law itself may be on our side, with the sure and loyal support of opinion, we must for years to come say a hundred words for education where we say one for prohibition. Law is a clumsy instrument; the roots lie too deep for its reach; but not too deep for the patient faith that works by love and reason.

Josiah R. Sypher, Esq., of 27th Ward, said that the government reports show that one-half of the poverty and pauperism in Great Britain were traceable to drink in certain counties, in other counties it was two-thirds, and in others three-fourths. Similar results were shown by careful enquiry in this country.

THE IMPOVERISHMENT OF THE COUNTRY

through liquor is appalling. The U. S. Internal Revenue official statistics show an average tax collected on spirits of \$600,000,000, and no one is suspected of overpayment of his required dues. And this tax comes from and impoverishes the consumer. It is not an exchange or a transfer of values, but the waste is as absolute as in war. What an army consumes in campaigns, is lost. What a mechanic, or other producer consumes in food, clothing, and otherwise, reappears in the products of his strength and skill, and is therefore never lost. A ton of coal consumed by a steam engine, reappears in power that turns machines by which something is produced in exchange for what was consumed. The liquor traffic, like war, consumes the products of industry without returning any compensating product. It is destruction, annihilation, and its results fall mainly upon the poorest who can least afford it.

In his opinion the only remedy to check this waste and its consequent poverty and pauperism was by repealing all laws which give a legal coloring of right to anybody to sell liquor. The personal habits of man will not be formed by Act of Assembly: and the liquor traffic will not be regulated by moral suasion. To influence men to forsake evil, and to adopt good methods of living, is a matter wholly within the domain of education. To regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the establishment of drinking houses, is altogether a matter of law. An Act of Assembly protects and licenses the dram-shops, and they will be abolished only by the same authority. The majority are now educated up to the proper point, but through their own inertness and the tricks of the politicians the voice of the majority is not heard.

Mr. Waldo Messaros, a visitor from Greece, had observed that most of the drinking in this land was among foreigners, and notably the Irish. The tendency of that nation for drink keeps them in misery on both sides of the ocean; so that even in the year of the last famine they spent £47,000,000 for liquor, and 1 in every 54 was arrested for drunkenness.

When the law closed the Irish liquor shops on Sunday, the sales diminished £7,500,000 per year, and a still farther decrease was effected by depriving magistrates of the power to issue licenses. Arriving in this land, they are surrounded by temptations, impoverished by rum and vice, and retained as tools for politicians; and so he who was a hard-working farmer at home is transmuted into a pauper here.

Mahomet, in two paragraphs in the Koran, enforced prohibition by bringing religion to bear upon it; and that prohibition had been the greatest woe to the speaker's own country, by compelling that temperance which has chiefly preserved its oppressors. If we believed our Bible as the Mahommedan does his Koran, the Devil could not erect a score of chapels to every temple built to God. He believed the rescue of men from pauperism through personal effort possible, because of the 80 reformed men he had seen, redeemed and restored to the instincts of gentlemen, at the Franklin Reformatory Home.

Dr. H. T. Child, of 6th Ward, believed drunkenness to be a disease, curable in 9 cases out of 10 by persistent personal influence, and that no better machinery existed than Organized Charity and the influence of its women Visitors. None feel their isolation more than drunkards, and the friendly visits of Superintendents and Visitors will go very far to encourage and do much to save them.

Miss Fannie M. Jackson alluded to the neglect to remedy drunkenness among the colored people. Small grog-shops abound in the streets occupied by this class, corrupting their morals and destroying their homes. In one block on Lombard street there was one church flanked by twelve saloons, and a good coffee house was sadly needed as a counter-attraction to the saloons. With full belief in the efficacy of prayer, she was persuaded that such a coffee-house would rescue more than the prayer meetings. If earnest temperance workers would aid in establishing such harmless and attractive resorts the colored people would patronize them, and their improvement would be speedily manifest. There are good hearts and bright minds among them, whose reclaiming is of no less value than if their skins were white.

Samuel P. Godwin, Esq., President of the Franklin Reformatory Home, thought it idle to wait to educate the people up to higher moral views before taking steps to stop this terrible evil. These pest houses must be blotted out in order to check the growth of pauperism. He illustrated his point by the history of two prominent Philadelphia merchants, who, through drink, became degraded beggars and died in the Almshouse. Neither this or any society can elevate the poor until the rum-shops are eradicated. Then can we take them from the mire and plant them on the rock, and make them respectable and self-supporting.

Rev. D. C. Babcock, Secretary of the National Temperance Society, was satisfied that drinking is a vice and drunkenness a disease, and this truth needs to be more generally learned. We have fought the effects

of intemperance too much instead of its causes. Much of the growth of drinking habits arises from its prevalence among the upper classes in society, and to put a stop to it there it must be made unfashionable. A high authority tells us that moderation does not lead to drunkenness, but the assertion will not bear the test of experience. There never was a drunkard who was not once a moderate drinker. The sale of drink is a crime, and when the people awake to that fact the chief cause of pauperism will be stopped.

The Assembly then adjourned.

THE JUNE ASSEMBLY MEETING

was held on the 6th inst., at the usual hall, at 8 p. m., Robert N. Willson, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the May meetings were read by Thos. C. Hand, Jr., Esq., and approved. The attention of the Assembly was called by the General Secretary to the varied and inviting programme of the National Conference of Charities and Correction to be held in Boston on the 25th to 30th prox., full details of which are given on our first page.

THE COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL CHARITIES

submitted a careful and valuable Report through Dr. Benj. Lee, Chairman, upon the details of the

ORGANIZATION, PROVINCE AND SCOPE

of the Committee's work.

Dr. Lee observed that it was characteristic of all truly great conceptions that they were not only fruitful, but that they did not end with the accomplishment of the solitary object in view at the outset, but branched off in new directions, and called into existence new agencies. The one conception on which this Society was founded was the pressing necessity for relief from the impositions of the horde of vampires and parasites which were sucking the life blood of our charitable effort. It bore this idea in its original title—"The Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy."

In order to study the many intricate problems which poverty, crime and disease in a large city suggested, the Society, to their honor be it said, instead of evading the problem, called into being "The Assembly," which might be termed a permanent "committee of the whole." Already was this body making itself felt in movements for practical reform-which were being successfully prosecuted.

The Report then gave some interesting statistics gathered by Professor S. D. Gross. It was estimated that in London, in 1773, 1,288,000 persons received gratuitous advice and medicines. In eight of the London Hospitals alone 300,000 patients were thus treated. In New York, in 1876, in eleven General Dispensaries 194,000 were treated indoors and nearly 10,000 more at their homes. If to those figures they added 21,000 patients treated at the Eye and Ear Infirmarys they would have a total of 225,000, or fully one-fourth of the population of that city, receiving free medical and surgical aid.

In Boston, in 1877, 100,000 people, or more than one-quarter of the entire population, received charitable medical aid. A careful analysis of the reports of all the medical charities of this city for the same year, made under the supervision of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, shewed that 136,710 persons had been treated by their physicians during that period. Thus London gives medical charity to one out of every three of her population; New York about the same ratio; Boston, to one in four and a fraction; Philadelphia, to one in five and a fraction.

Whether they looked at the subject from the lowest of all standpoints—the pecuniary, or from the highest—the humanitarian, they must concede that the interests involved were sufficiently important to warrant the special work of this Committee. Co-operation with the leading medical society of the city, in order to prevent abuse, was sought, and cheerfully accorded. From that co-operation resulted a carefully-devised scheme for the union of all the medical charities calculated to promote their efficiency, and which also relieved them from much previous imposition. This scheme had received the endorsement of the entire profession of the city at a public meeting held for its discussion more than a year ago, and presided over by Prof. Gross. A Committee was then appointed to act in concert with the various medical charities; and the present assemblage, to which the entire medical profession and members of the various institutions had been especially invited, might be taken as an earnest that this Committee had not been sleeping on its oars.

The Committee had drawn largely upon the ranks both of those already active workers in this field and of those desirous of devoting a portion of their time and energies to the relief of suffering and the eleva-

tion of their kind. Many thus added were women, and from this element very much was expected, especially in the work of visitation and investigation. The valuable results achieved by women are shown by their labors in the State Charities Aid Association of New York.

This Committee proceeded on the supposition that no human institution was so perfect that it could not be improved. Reform was its watchword. The manner in which kindly-disposed persons, (especially women full of the "enthusiasm of humanity,") who had time to spare, were prompt to do good to their suffering fellow creatures, and add efficiency to hospital work, opened a field of great usefulness.

Sub-Committees suggested themselves as the readiest means for carrying on an intelligent system of investigation, comparison and education, and these have been designated as follows, with the names of their Chairmen added: 1. On In-Door Relief, Dr. J. M. Keating; 2. On Out-Door Relief, Dr. Chas. Turnbull; 3. On Hospital and Medical Missions, Mr. Charles M. Morton; 4. On Hospital Hygiene and Construction, Dr. J. G. Richardson; 5. On Hospital Administration, Dr. Morris Longstreth; 6. On Training Schools for Nurses, Miss A. E. Broomall, M. D.

These Committees are all organized, and of such material as affords a guarantee that substantial results would be reached by them. Much depended upon the activity of the Chairmen and on the combined faithfulness and discretion of the Visiting Committees. At a conference of these Chairmen suggestions were made as to the best mode of facilitating the transaction of business and promoting efficient organization. With an organization carefully matured, and a corps of earnest and intelligent workers and trained thinkers in its ranks, with its plan of operation definitely mapped out, the Committee feel that the conscientious discharge of the duties assigned them will result in a better appreciation by the public of the needs of the Medical Charities, a diminution of their abuse by impostors and "rounders," a more complete harmony of action between the different institutions, an increased efficiency in their administration, and a general elevation of the standard of Medical Relief.

THE BEST SANITARY PROVISIONS FOR CHILDREN OF THE POOR DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

Were then presented by the Committee, Dr. J. G. Richardson, Professor of Hygiene at the University of Pennsylvania, reading a well-digested and exhaustive paper upon the first division, viz., the provisions

FOR INFANTS—PREVENTIVE AND REMEDIAL.

1. He remarked that the hygienic care and management of infants might seem to some of minor interest; but when we consider that the great business of each generation upon earth is to produce and nurture its immediate successor, it becomes obvious that no department of sanitary science surpasses this one in importance. The new-born child has a most sensitive organization, and it is worthy of our best energies to protect its life, foster its growth, and promote its fullest development during the first five years of its existence. Without the best hygienic management of infancy, childhood and youth, and that best adapted to climate, it is not possible to secure a nation of healthy, vigorous minds, in sound, well-developed bodies.

The value of judicious sanitation in infancy was brought before the French International Hygienic Congress held in 1878, in which he participated. The conclusions reached in regard to the minimum mortality of infants were, that in a healthy country, with a cool or temperate climate, any rate of death exceeding 90 or 95 per 1000 for the first year of life was due to accidental causes, avoidable by hygienic measures, plainly within their power. Also, that this mortality may be further reduced under the best social conditions to 75, or even 70 deaths per 1000 during the first year of life, a minimum which has actually been attained among the children of the English nobility, and one towards which we in Philadelphia, the "city of healthy homes," should strive to approximate more nearly with each succeeding year.

Probably the most powerful foe of infant life in this climate during the next three months is to be found in the excessive heat which gives rise, directly or indirectly, to so many of the attacks of gastritis, cholera infantum, and dysentery which decimate the children of the city poor in summer. Every hour that a young child is exposed to a temperature above 85° or 88° fah., in the built-up portions of the city, it is robbed of some little part of its vitality, even though no actual disease is produced. And when to this are added want of cleanliness, impure air, fermenting or improper food, deficient sunlight, unsuitable clothing, etc., the wonder is, not that so many children die, but that so many live. The speaker enforced the need of proper

ventilation in the homes of the poor and the dangers of over-crowded apartments. This slow poisoning of the blood through the lungs was often augmented by the smoke and gasses of combustion from stoves with imperfect draught, ill-fitting stove-pipes (a frequent source of evil) and smoky coal-oil or other lamps, all of which gave off injurious chemical products which were peculiarly noxious to the delicate respiratory organs of babes.

Children whose health was being thus damaged should be hastened off to those valuable institutions, the Sanitarium on Windmill Island, the Children's Seashore House at Atlantic City and the Children's Country Week. Children's excursions to the park and on the rivers should be made far more frequent and available, and would largely reduce the number of infantile deaths from excessive heat.

Cool or luke-warm baths are very effective in febrile diseases of childhood, because the abstraction of heat and subsequent reaction depended less upon the weight of the body than upon the relative extent of the conducting and radiating surface. The general rule of dressing a baby warmly permitted of but a single exception, and that had reference to its head, which must always be kept cool. The public baths should be multiplied, so that children beyond early infancy could have the benefit of them. These baths are a great boon to the poor.

Entire classes of skin diseases, as well as more serious maladies, were due in whole or in part to neglect of cleanliness, and the public health demands these sanitary provisions. Statistics prove the necessity of every mother nursing her own child, by showing that a much higher rate of mortality exists among infants fed artificially. The grave conclusion to be drawn is that the diminution of early mortality depends upon avoiding diseases of the digestive apparatus by insisting upon normal alimentation, especially for the first three months, for, although the mother's milk has been shown to lower infant mortality through the whole first year of life, it accomplished this great gain more especially during the initial quarter of that period. If a child must be fed artificially two bottles and fixtures, used alternately, are most desirable, that one may always be absolutely clean. The use of condensed milk is also recommended over that of much of the milk sold in cities.

Scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, typhoid fever, cholera, erysipelas and other infectious diseases are best guarded against by accepting the doctrines of the Germ Theory of Disease and realizing that every patient is a hot-bed or forcing-house for propagating the seeds of the disease, which are multiplied and given off with a marvelous prodigality; and also by guarding in every possible way against permitting the sowing of these seeds, by rigid seclusion of the sick and disinfecting provisions.

Respecting the prevention of other diseases, Dr. Richardson referred to the "SPECIAL RULES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF INFANTS during the hot season, recommended by the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia," and published by the Board of Health for gratuitous distribution. He closed by saying that these rules, in conjunction with the sound advice upon the same subject contained in the admirable "Manual and Directory of Charities" of this Society, form a basis for sanitary work on behalf of the children of the poor, which, if faithfully carried out, must assuredly prevent a large amount of sickness, suffering and death among the little ones during the approaching summer months.

The second division of the subject, concerning provisions

FOR CHILDREN—THE BEST MEANS OF DIMINISHING THE MORTALITY AMONG THEM DURING THE HOT WEATHER IN CITIES, INCLUDING THE PROJECT OF SANITARY CAMPS FOR CHILDREN,

was then discussed by

Dr. Henry Hartshorne, who observed that it was part of the work of Associations like this to be in advance in finding out the need of and in promoting all social reforms. 1,000 to 1,500 children's deaths occur yearly in Philadelphia and about 3,000 in New York City that could be prevented by suitable precautions. These deaths equal the worst ravages of yellow fever, among all ages, in its several visitations, and that disease is accounted to be a terrible one. Is it not necessary, then, to do something to check this excessive mortality? Children's "summer complaint," like yellow fever, depends for its production on *local causes*, removal from which gives immunity from it. When the latter disease visited Memphis in 1878, 20,000 persons fled from the city, and nearly all escaped. Of the 19,600 who remained 17,600 had the fever and 5,150 died. Of those who took refuge in the camps outside the city but 1 in 11 died, and in 1878 but 1 in 376, while of those remaining in the city 1 in every 4 died. With children in our chief cities about one-half the deaths in the first year of life, and nearly one-third of all in the second year, occur in the three hot months. High heat acts injuriously on the blood, nerve and muscle cells, and the digestive system of the child, and also on the milk of the nursing mother. It also

decomposes organic matter, and poisons air, water and food, clothing, bedding, carpets, &c. *Heat, crowding and filth* are the three great factors which aggravate mortality among city children in the summer, and against these, three sanitary measures must be urged—

1. Get as many children away from the cities as possible, for as long a time as possible.
2. Improve the homes of the poor.
3. Teach them how to live.

Country Week visitations, sanitary camp life, and personal service of sanitary visitors—trained women especially—are the best means to effectuate these measures. Many of those children who do not die are enfeebled for life and have to live on public or private charity, and so it is a matter of self-interest as well as humanity to do all we can to improve their health and home life.

He believed sanitary encampments for children during summer quite practicable, and referred to the noble bequest of \$500,000 by the late Thomas Wilson, of Baltimore, to support a Sanitarium outside that city, as promising much in testing the benefits of such measures. He advocated devoting the encampments to the preservation of well children, letting the sick be cared for by provisions already established for them. A part of the children and mothers might remain continuously for two or three weeks in the camp, while older and stronger ones might spend the day only, and return home at night. There are many persons now obtainable, competent to locate, organize and conduct such encampments, and much can be learned from the experience of the Sanitarium for Sick Children at Atlantic City. Four camps would suffice for 1200 children. The cost of camps would decrease pro rata with the increased number accommodated, within reasonable limits; but were the cost ten times what it need be, what is that to a great city in order to save 1,000 lives? Millions are spent to *cure* disease, and should not as much be done for prevention? Much service could be rendered by mothers, and much by the older children, and thus reduce expenses.

Also by thus lessening the crowded population of our courts and alleys those remaining would have better conditions, and the Board of Health could the better provide for their sanitary needs and purify their homes.

So many mothers being temporarily removed, provision for the meals of fathers and sons, remaining behind at labor, could be made in good but cheap "coffee-houses" near their working places; and such problems will solve themselves when such a saving of lives is involved.

The late eminent Dr. Hugh L. Hodge, the father of your valued President, many years since delivered an eloquent discourse on "The Rights of Infants." The rights of man, and later the rights of women, have abundant advocacy. Let it be the duty of Charitable Associations to care for the rights of that most helpless class of all, the *children of the poor*.

The hour of ten o'clock having arrived, the Assembly was adjourned until the first Monday in September, after passing resolutions referring to the Directors, the able papers of Drs. Richardson and Hartshorne for publication in whole or in part, and for wide distribution among the poor of the city.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR JUNE.

The stated Conference of Visitors for the current month was held on the 7th inst. in the usual place, Mrs. Gillingham presiding, and Miss Hancock acting as secretary.

Reports from several wards were received, showing a uniform decrease in applications. This decrease was caused largely by the greater abundance of work, and by the diminution of sickness. Permanent employment was secured for 5 adults and temporary work for 25. There were 7 placed in the Almshouse and 1 in Insane Hospital. One old couple were provided with a home among friends in New England, legal protection was supplied to 1 case, and one father was persuaded to abandon drink. Medical treatment was secured for 36, and sick diet for 5 invalids. Three children were placed in private homes and 4 in a day nursery. Help from co-operating societies was secured for 3. One family was found to have paid for their winter's coal, from small savings heretofore considered impossible.

The experience of Visitors was asked for by the Chair in regard to securing the benefits of the Sick Diet Kitchens at long distances from the kitchens; and cases were cited by Visitors in which the HOUSE OF MERCY had made a corresponding allowance, enabling Visitors to provide the necessary delicacies for invalids, especially consumptives, without requiring long journeys to the Diet Kitchens.

A new form of Visitors' Monthly Report was presented and adopted, showing the following details:—

Number of visits to the poor;
 " " to others on behalf of the poor;
 " letters written " "
 " medical visits supplied;
 Reasons for increase or decrease of applicants;
 Number of cases made independent of farther relief;
 What measures contributed to this result;
 Number of children out of school, and the reasons;
 " " placed in schools, in family homes, in temporary homes, in institutions, in hospitals, etc.;
 Number for whom permanent and temporary work were found;
 Able-bodied persons remaining idle, and why;
 and requiring illustrative cases with each report.
 Steps were taken to increase the interest in the monthly Conferences, by more careful preparation of subjects for consideration.
 Progress was also reported in the establishment of a Bureau of Children's Aid, for the more economical and effective disposal of cases in which dependent and delinquent children were concerned.
 The Conference then adjourned until the 1st Tuesday in October.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

SUMMER SAVINGS.

At this season of the year, when work is plenty and wages are good, the harvest time for the dwellers in cities, the question of savings naturally presents itself.

Our Society has lately issued a Bulletin on this subject, which begins by quoting a statement which the Commissioner of Savings Banks for the State of New York has put on record from a full experience:

"The poor in general are those who gain their living by labor, with no accumulated capital. Judged by this statement a large proportion of our American people must be classed among the poor.

"Keeping the above statement strictly in mind, we pray our Committees, Agents, and Visitors during the summer season to use their influence for the advantage of the dependent poor.

"We do not suggest the foundation of new banks or associations to this end, but we beg for the personal and careful oversight of our friends to the poor, to advise them as to the best methods of saving; that when the 'rainy days' return they shall not be in as bad a condition as last year."

In this connection let us quote the report of a Visitor. We tell the story, as far as possible in her own words: 'In visiting Mrs. N—a lazy and improvident woman, left a widow with three children, I was struck with the intelligence of little Milly, not quite eight, but the oldest of the children. I gave her a toy Savings' Bank last February, and told her that I would come on the first day of every month to open it and count her savings with her. It was her first lesson about the days of the month. The answers to her constant question to her mother, 'In how many days will Miss — be here?' taught them to her. On the first day of March we unscrewed the box when, to my surprise, there were 33 pennies in it. They had grown so fast that I feared I was tempting her into begging; but I found that she earned them by running on errands for the neighbors in the large tenement house in which they lived. When the first of April came, the bank was opened with the same ceremonies, while Milly stood by with wide-opened eyes eagerly watching each cent as I counted, and her face grew radiant when I passed one hundred and then counted three more. I found that the Suffolk Savings' Bank would receive deposits of \$1 on interest; but they required every depositor to sign his or her name, or to have a trustee. I did not wish that the mother should be able to control the child's money, and I did not choose to be trustee myself, as I wanted to teach the family habits of self-reliance. Though the child could form separate letters, she could not write a whole word, so I went each afternoon for three or four days to give her a writing lesson, until she could sign her own name.

'She and her mother met me at the bank, and it was droll to see the air of a capitalist with which she looked up at its marble pillars and walked up the high stone steps. The clerk brought out the book for her to sign, and here a fresh difficulty arose. Milly was not tall enough to reach the counter, so the sympathizing official brought around the big ledger and laid it open upon a chair. She wrote her name legibly and neatly, and her bank book was handed over to her own keeping. She would not trust it to her mother's pocket, but went away solemnly holding it in both her hands.' ('Thus little Milly crossed the New York Commissioners' dividing line).

'My next anxiety is not to turn the child into a miser, and I am pro-

posing to her the noble ambition of some day helping her mother to pay the rent.'

LETTER FROM THE

BUFFALO CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The conveyance of the munificent trust of Benjamin Fitch, Esq., of New York, to the Charity Organization Society of this city has been completed by formal acceptance of the deed by our trustees. The estimates of the value of the property conveyed range from \$175,000 to \$275,000; but it certainly constitutes a splendid endowment for the proposed "Fitch Institute." It is held by the Society as by a trustee, to be managed "for the physical, moral and intellectual benefit of the worthy poor of Buffalo." The specified methods in which it is to be applied to these ends are substantially as stated in April, including the maintenance of a 'provident dispensary, a penny savings' bank, a temporary hospital or surgery, a provident soup kitchen, a reading-room, coffee-room and lecture hall, a training school for domestic employments, &c.

It is not the intention of Mr. Fitch that any part of the income from this property shall be applied to the general work and administrative expenses of the Charity Organization Society. The latter, therefore, is still as dependent as heretofore upon the people of Buffalo for its support—a fact which it is important to have understood.

CITY OUT-DOOR RELIEF IN BUFFALO.

Some months since, the city of Buffalo appointed a new Overseer of the Poor, losing the services of one who had co-operated cordially with the Charity Organization Society from its commencement, and substituting one who declined to co-operate or harmonize with it. The administration of the Overseer's department was speedily changed from a discreet and repressive one, which had nearly rid the city of professional paupers, to one which the local press boldly charges with a policy of recklessness, "gross malfeasance," and "political corruption," necessitating large over-drafts on the city treasury. The Charity Organization Society has taken the matter up, and exposes the Overseer's failings in details, some of which are gathered from the press reports.

J. H. Dormer, Esq., Chairman of the Society's Committee on the subject, produced from the printed records the following cases to substantiate the accusations:—

"1. A list of 74 cases receiving help, that had not been investigated for 12 to 18 months previous."

"2. A list of 16 cases, as instances of indiscriminate and unwise aid of which these are specimens—viz."

"No. 1991. A canal-boat captain receiving five issues of groceries in place of one ordered; and yet 'refusing work offered him by the Society.'"

"No. 603. Refused suitable work at \$22½ per month, and yet 'draws City aid,' although 'notice' had been sent by the Society to the Overseer's Office."

"No. 510. Receiving aid, yet found to have money in bank."

"No. 711. Purchased and paid for a 'small home' and then 'secured City aid,' although the fact that he was a property owner was reported to the Overseer's Office."

"No. 1715. A man with wife and two grown sons (drunkards) who were retained as beneficiaries because of a ward politician's appeal, 'who could not afford to cut them off before election,' in spite of an honest 'report' against them. Their father boasted that 'their whisky 'cost them nothing.'"

In April, 1880, the Councils appropriated \$55,000 for the year. This was exhausted in October, and at the end of the year a deficit of \$11,000 was found, for which appropriation was asked, although the number of cases was less than in the previous year, and the times better, and facilities for investigating and cutting off improper cases were increased. The deficit was caused, (1) by the Overseer giving in summer, the same aid (in value) as in winter, and (2) by increasing the average amount given to one third more, and in some cases doubling it.

Out of \$18,992 expended in three police precincts by the new overseer, \$5,609 or 30 per cent was shown to have been improperly given; and this percentage will doubtless hold good concerning the whole expenditure. The present Overseer brought to his office the ideas and methods of 1875 and 1876, which he acquired as deputy, and "which this Society has constantly and earnestly combatted." * * *

"We need his co-operation," says Mr. Dormer, "for although personal and organized benevolence is on the increase in the community, there is too much desire, on the part of the average citizen, to use Judge Chilton's words, to 'hide away God's poor and support them by the enforced offer-

ings of the tax-list, and through hired officials—which would be the last resort of a dutiful Christian community.”

Mr. Dormer gives warning that “if the community does not rise to an intelligent sense of its duty to the improvident and vicious poor, it will have a fearful evil staring it in the face.”

BEDFORD STREET MISSION.

The Managers of the BEDFORD STREET MISSION have just issued their 28th Annual Report, to March 25th, 1881, from which we make the following extracts:—

Number to whom food, clothing, coal or money was given	503
“ of dinners given in the Chapel to children whose parents were properly refused soup tickets.	3267
“ of dinners of soup and bread given to adults in the Chapel	1586
“ of garments distributed	2062
“ sent to the almshouse	12
“ of nights' lodgings to the homeless	28
“ of homes obtained for girls	5
“ of free baths given	7104
“ of scholars in the Day School	288
“ of scholars in the Industrial School	120
“ of scholars in the Sunday School, average	90

Those who remember the fearfully abandoned character of Bedford street 10 or 12 years ago will appreciate the wise and invaluable labor of the Mission in the remark of the Report, that “the more it does for the improvement of its quarter the less it *appears* to be doing; the number receiving its care diminishing necessarily with the number elevated and improved by it.

“The time has gone by or is rapidly going, the Managers hope, when the value of a charitable institution is to be measured by the amount of money it spends. Its credit should rather be determined by the fact as to whether its funds have gone to the deserving poor, who have at the same time been encouraged and aided to self-dependence, or whether they have been dispensed to swell the mass of pauperism and vice, such as the Mission is now engaged in fighting.

“The work done is—the care bestowed on the poor of the district in all their varying circumstances of want and suffering; the supervision of their homes and suggestions of measures for their comfort and the prevention of disease among them; the means of cleanliness and health afforded in the large provision made for their bathing; the education of their children (debarred by entirely proper rules from the Public Schools) in the ordinary branches and those of an Industrial School as well. Then there is the check put, through the presence and influence of the Missionary, on the low grogeries and other infamous houses of the quarter,—among them the ‘Lodging Houses,’ those haunts of iniquity which, under an innocent name, harbor nightly hundreds of vagrants and drunkards and thieves and prostitutes, to say nothing of the entertainment they give to Repeaters on the eve of elections; and, again, the stamping out, now of a Relapsing Fever and now of the Cholera or Smallpox, when for want of the Missionary’s vigilance these diseases might spread over the city. Surely services like these to the inhabitants of the district and the city at large fully warrant the expenditures reported.

“The Managers are thankful to be able to say that the improvement of the quarter,—which they willingly concede began with the operations of ‘The Beneficent Building Association’ on Bedford Street about twelve years ago,—is steadily progressing; and that it needs only faithfulness on the part of the police in suppressing vile and disorderly houses and keeping their occupants and visitors off the streets, driving them within doors and not allowing them to advertise their foul practices and callings publicly,—and, in addition to this, such a sensible administration of the House of Correction, as was advocated by Judge Ashman at the late anniversary of the Charity Organization Society, to make the progress rapid. Much, too, might be done in aid of it, by our citizens abstaining from all encouragement of beggars at their kitchen doors, and of the young girls on the street engaged in selling papers, matches, oranges, etc., most of whom come from the Mission quarter. These last soon lose in their occupations all modesty and sense of shame, and their end, in most cases, is prostitution.”

The total expenses of the Society for the year were \$3,420.93, a very small outlay for so much faithful and effective service in the reformation of the wretched quarter in which the Mission operates.

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF TAUNTON.

In Taunton, Mass., a hopeful organization has recently been effected, with the above name, and its work is just now being started with a call for sixty Visitors. The pastors of all the Protestant churches are in hearty sympathy with the enterprise, and they will do a good service by selecting and bringing forward the best men and women they can find in answer to the call. The Catholics are still holding aloof from the desired co-operation.

The Board of Managers, of which all the members are ex-officio members, is as follows: Hon. Samuel L. Crocker, President; Rev. M. Blake, D. D., and Joseph Dean, Vice-Presidents; Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Secretary and Superintendent; Orville A. Baker, Treasurer; Hon. Wm. C. Lovering, Rev. A. B. Hervey, Rev. H. P. DeForest, Henry G. Reid, Hon. Harrison Tweed, Henry B. Dennett, James H. Anthony, Rev. C. H. Learoyd, A. King Williams, A. J. Lawrence, Charles Foster, Wm. H. Merrill, Job G. Luscomb, Wm. H. Steadwell, Rev. W. H. Walcott, Hezekiah L. Merrill.

This Board has provided for the distribution of its work among eight committees, viz.: On Finance, Visitation, Registration, Relief, Employment, Savings, Homes for Neglected Children, Printing, the Secretary being a member of each committee.

An office has been opened and tickets have been issued for the use of householders.

THE REGISTER hails this new movement “for investigation and relief,” and will be happy to report its progress.

NOTES.

Manual of Instruction.—Mrs. C. R. Lowell, of New York, has kindly added to our Library a very useful hand-book of elementary instruction in the use of Wood-working Tools. It was prepared for the Industrial School Association of Boston, as a step in the introduction of this branch of instruction in the public schools. It is simply written and well illustrated, and is worthy the examination of those interested in this department, as affording easy and inexpensive methods of imparting manual training.

How we made a Nine Cent Dinner explained in full, with some other economies, by the New Century Cooking School, Philadelphia,” is the title of a neat and very instructive tract issued by the School in question. It is sold for the benefit of the Cooking School (price 10 cents.) at 1112 Girard Street, and its lessons, if carried out, are worth hundreds of dollars every year to any family. Economy, good digestion, cheerfulness and independence are all made accessible by following the simple directions which this sensible pamphlet puts forth.

The Charity Organization Reporter of the London Charity Organization Society contains a collection of useful facts and data, and the latest information on question connected with *Charity, and Charitable Work, and the Improvement of the Poor*. The proceedings of the London Charity Organization Society are reported, and frequent notices of charity and of Charity Organization in the provinces and abroad are inserted. The columns of the *Reporter* are open to free and unfettered correspondence by persons who have special knowledge in any branches of charitable work. Short accounts of the meetings of London Charitable Institutions are also inserted.

London, 16th May, 1881.

CASES.

Case 82, 15th Ward (C. R.)—An old couple, who have been under our care for two years, are both over seventy and unable to do any work. No relatives able to aid. The Church pays their rent; but nothing more. Clothing is provided by families known to the Visitor. They are in constant need of food and fuel. They would be better off in some suitable institution; but the “Homes” are full, and we feel unwilling to force them into the Almshouse. Will not some private family consent to take entire charge of this couple, supplying the additional help required, and maintaining friendly visitation of them?

Case 83, 15th Ward (W. E.)—A poor woman with sick children, unable to employ a physician, desired no charity except medical attendance. This was supplied through co-operation with the district physician of the Guardians of the Poor.

Case 84, 15th Ward (W. G.)—Widow. Last winter we placed her husband, an incurable invalid, in the Philadelphia Hospital. He was discontented and returned home, where he recently died. Close attendance upon him, for some time preceding his decease, prevented her going out to work, and compelled her to ask temporary help until she could procure employment. The relief was supplied, and the Visitor secured several places for her at washing and cleaning, thus making her independent.

Cases 84 and 85, 15th Ward.—Two widows, each living alone. Old, feeble and friendless, and very unwilling to go to the Almshouse. Will not one or two private families permit the Association to refer these cases to them for neighborly supervision and such maintenance as is needed? Less in value than is given away at many back gates would make these desolate women comfortable.

Case 86, 15th Ward (D. T.)—An insane man, whose family through his incapacity are in dire straits. Formerly a respectable laborer, but for several years demented and lately quite violent. He was placed in the Norristown Insane Hospital, the Association paying legal expenses. The wife, when relieved of the care of him, is able to maintain herself and children.

Case 87, 15th Ward (J. L.)—A woman just discharged from the obstetric Ward of Women’s Hospital. Her husband is serving a sentence in the penitentiary. We paid the board of her oldest child, a bright active boy, while she was in the hospital, and finally found for him a place on a farm. Temporary aid is supplied until the woman can find places to work, where her young baby will not be an obstacle.

Case 88, 15th Ward (T. E.)—Widow. Husband died some months ago. She will be confined in a few weeks. Temporary aid has to be granted until she is over her trouble, when she will have enough work for self-support.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 10.
WHOLE NO. 22.

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 15, 1881.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL AUGUST 15TH.

Monday, August 8, 3.30 P. M., Board of Directors.

The Assembly Meetings are suspended until September 5th.

The Women's General Conference is suspended until October 4th.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

BOSTON, JULY 25-30, 1881.

The Eighth Annual Session of the NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION will meet in the Representatives' Hall, State House, Boston, at 10 A. M., July 25th, 1881, and will continue in session six days.

The Conference will be opened by an Address of Welcome, by His Excellency Governor Long of Massachusetts, followed by the Annual Address of the retiring President, Mr. F. B. Sanborn.

The days of the session have been assigned to the Standing Committees on the following subjects:

Monday—On the organization and work of State Boards of Charities.

Tuesday—On Charitable Organization in Cities.

Wednesday—On Immigration.

Thursday—On Crime and Penalties.

Friday—On Preventive Work among Children.

Saturday—On Imbecility and Idiocy.

The forenoons will be given to the Committees' reports and the debates following; the afternoons to visiting institutions of charity and correction in the vicinity of Boston, and the evenings to a session for papers and debates.

Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of States, and Delegates specially appointed to represent States or Provinces, and all members of Boards of Charities and Prison Commissions are *ex officio* members of the Conference. All persons officially connected with State or Municipal charitable, penal or reformatory establishments, who attend in that capacity, are also members of the Conference; and all persons regularly delegated to represent private charitable organizations, are admitted as members on presenting their credentials. All other persons interested in charitable work are invited to be present.

F. B. SANBORN, of Massachusetts,
President of the Conference.

TO OUR READERS.

If you are interested in the consideration of matters relating to social and charitable economy, and are not already a subscriber to the MONTHLY REGISTER, please send us your subscription.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can

GET YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR
by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

EDITORIAL.

PRACTICAL CO-OPERATION.

The following practical step in Charitable Co-operation is the first of its kind in the experience of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, and is not only important in its immediate bearings, but suggestive of future possibilities.

At a meeting of the members of the PHILADELPHIA SOUP HOUSE, held on the 2d of May last, the following Preambles and Resolution were presented.

"WHEREAS, a time has arrived in the history of the Soup House and in the circumstances of the City, when, it is believed, the work of the former can be done more in accordance with the intentions of its Founders and to the advantage of the poor, than by its present methods, through which, notwithstanding all the efforts to avoid such a result, the evils of pauperism are largely engendered or perpetuated; and

WHEREAS, this result can be prevented only through a more thorough and frequent investigation of the cases of applicants than is possible to the Soup Society in the press and hurry of the opening of the House and the shortness of the season during which the Charity is dispensed; and

WHEREAS, the Society's building, used at present but ten weeks of the year, could be employed the whole fifty-two in ways tending to the benefit of the poor and their elevation from dependence on alms to a condition of self-support, which should be the great aim of all charitable endeavor; and

WHEREAS, these increased advantages can be secured, it is thought, by the administration of the House on the principles and plan of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, as set forth in its charter and in operation in its various Ward Associations; therefore

RESOLVED, that the Soup House building with its fixtures and effects be leased for the term ———, at a nominal rent per ——— to the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, for the use of the Fifth Ward Association of that Society, on condition that they shall, under the direction and control of the Soup House authorities, attend to the making of soup and its distribution, along with bread, during the winter months to the honest and industrious poor of the district, and that the various means of promoting the interests of this class, approved and recommended by the said Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, and for which the building is suited, shall also be employed in it for their benefit."

After some discussion of the measure proposed, its further consideration was referred to a Special Committee; and the Committee, having at a subsequent meeting reported in favor of it, was thereupon continued and directed to prepare a formal agreement or lease of the Soup House

premises to the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity for the use of its Fifth Ward Association, and to have it printed and a copy furnished to each member of the Soup House, with notice at the same time, of a meeting to be held at which action on it would be taken.

Such a meeting was held on June 22d, and the agreement was unanimously confirmed, and the officers were directed to execute the lease for one year at the rent of fifty cents per month.

This action gives our 5th Ward Association the control of a valuable and convenient property in which to carry on their work for the elevation of the poor, comprising Conference meetings, Kindergartens and other schools for neglected children, clothing, employment and provident enterprises, etc.

The above action is very gratifying, apart from the immediate value in increased facilities afforded one of our branches for practical work, in the endorsement it gives to our whole Society from this oldest as well as one of the most respected of the Soup Societies of our city, and in the expression of its individual members, who are so well known and esteemed for their intimate experience in the management of the best Charities and other important interests of our city.

There is also important significance in the fact that in the 3d, 4th and 5th Wards, comprising our "Five Points"—the hot-bed of the pauperism and vice of our city, a similar co-operation has been effected with the House of Industry and the Bedford Street Mission. The Ward Associations, reinforced by the complete co-operation of these admirable and carefully managed Societies, look for an early solution of the problem of the crime and degradation in this quarter, that has so long been a blot and disgrace upon our community.

It may be stated here that co-operation has also been established through occupancy of their premises and the use of their relief, by the 11th and 12th Ward Associations with the Northern Soup Society. This tendency towards complete co-operation is increasing throughout the scope of the Society's work and especially among the Medical Charities.

HEALTH HINTS FOR THE POOR.

Through the liberality of friends, the Society has been able to print, for distribution throughout the city, 35,000 copies or more of "Health Hints for the Care of Children during the hot season, prepared by the Committee on Medical Charities of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity." To which is added "Special Rules for the management of infants, recommended by the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia to the thoughtful attention of Mothers, and approved by the Board of Health."

To these pamphlets the following order has been appended by the city authorities:

"The Lieutenants of Police will see that these pamphlets are placed in the hands of all mothers living in the poorer portions of their districts, and will cause the distribution to be made by the Police Officers on duty in those sections. By order of the MAYOR.

SAMUEL I. GIVIN, Chief of Police."

Accompanying the pamphlets are careful instructions from Col. Given to all the Lieutenants to place promptly, by house to house visitation, one of the pamphlets in the hands of each poor family having children. The co-operation and interest of His Honor the Mayor and the Chief of Police in all the arrangements of this important distribution, have been most earnest and marked, and enable the Society to take a very practical step in the preservation of the health of poor children during the hot season now so close at hand. Copies of these Hints may be had at the Society's Central office, 1602 Chesnut street free, or will be mailed on receipt of a stamp.

THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA was formed June 7th, making the 16th Society in the United States for the specific promulgation of "Charity Organization." The same reasons have led to this action in Washington that have influenced similar movements elsewhere. Large disbursements were misapplied for lack of system and of knowledge of the real condition and needs of recipients, and in this haphazard method, the unworthy were the chief gainers; and the result was the increase of street begging, and the promotion of mendicancy and vice. The work is taken in hand by influential citizens, and we gladly welcome it into the sisterhood of Co-operative Charity Societies. Its location at the National Capital gives it national importance.

THE FOLLOWING gentlemen have been appointed by Governor Hoyt to represent the State of Pennsylvania at the National Conference of Char-

ities at Boston, 25th inst.: T. H. Nevin, Esq., President of Board of Inspectors of the Western Penitentiary; Rev. J. S. Milligan, Chaplain of the same institution; Hon. F. R. Brunot, of Pittsburg; Hon. Richard Vaux and Messrs. Oliver Evans, Frederick Collins, and Joseph G. Rosengarten, of Philadelphia.

A FATHER with two adult daughters seeks a position as manager, steward or resident physician (he having practised medicine until pecuniary losses compelled removal) in some one of the institutions for care of children or infirm adults.

IN ORDER to make room for matter relating to the approaching National Conference of Charities, at Boston, July 15th to 30th, the REGISTER is compelled to extend its limits, for this time, beyond its usual eight pages.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES.

The subjoined schedule of the information requested by the "Committee on Organization of Charities in Cities," of the NATIONAL CONFERENCE, from all the Charity Organization Societies of the country, and some in Great Britain, is given to indicate to the workers in such Societies the line of discussion under the report of this Committee, on July 26th. There is added also the division of the subjects into convenient heads for consideration. It is believed that this information will enable those interested to arrange thoughts in advance, so as to give a more practical application at the time of discussion.

SCHEDULE.

1. Name and Address of Society?
2. Date of Organization?
3. What is the character of its Central Body?
4. What is the character of its District Associations?
5. (1) What is the population of the city or town?
- (2) The membership of your Society?
- (3) The number of its Workers and Visitors?
- (4) What constitutes Membership?
6. To what extent has Co-operation been effected?
- (1) With Societies?
- (2) With Churches or Religious Bodies?
- (3) With Public Departments?
- And what success is anticipated in these directions?
7. Does the Society furnish relief from its own resources, or depend exclusively upon other Societies to furnish it? and what course is deemed most advisable in this respect?
- (2) What ground for apprehension may there be that the resources of relief through Co-operating Societies alone may not, at all times, be adequate or to be depended upon?
8. What provisions have been made for giving or procuring employment? and what would you advocate in this direction?
9. What success has been obtained in suppressing street beggars and mendicancy? and through what methods? and what better means could be suggested?
10. What do you consider to be the chief causes of Pauperism and Crime in your town? and how far may these conditions be chargeable to Indiscriminate Charity and Intemperance? What percentage do you attribute to the latter cause?
11. What is your system of registration? How far is it complied with by Societies and individuals? and what value do you place upon it?
12. What ameliorating effects on Pauperism and Crime have been produced in the town since the existence of your Society?
13. What new or additional agencies have been introduced, or their introduction caused by your Society, either Provident, Preventive or Remedial?
14. What attention has been given to the care of the Children of the Poor, either Custodial, Sanitary, or Educational, and what relative importance do you place upon this branch of your work?
15. In the Central Body or Council of your Society what powers of administration are entrusted to it? Has it different Committees engaged in the questions of Charitable Economy, and if so, name them? Are there stated Conferences of all the workers in the Society for the discussion of such questions, and are other persons invited to attend?

16. In the Branch or District Associations
 - (1) Have you in all cases paid agents in charge of the Office?
 - (2) Are there Volunteer Visitors, men or women, and if so, what are the relative functions between the Agent and Visitors in the investigation or care of cases?
 - (3) Have you Weekly Conferences of all your Workers to consider special cases for Relief, or do you employ Committees, or any other means, for this purpose?
 - (4) What other features in the administration or work of any of your District Associations are of peculiar or of special interest?
17. Will you give a list of the publications of your Society?
18. In general terms, what might be said to characterize your Society, or to be its distinguishing features from other Societies in Organized Charity.
19. What was the entire cost of
 - (1) Administration of your Society for the last year (exclusive of relief)?
 - (2) Of the Central Office?
 - (3) The average cost of administration of a District Association (exclusive of relief)?
20. General remarks.

DIVISION OF SUBJECTS SUGGESTED FOR DISCUSSION.

A. The best development of the *Central Work* of a Society for Organizing Charity, viz.:

1. In directing and harmonizing the administration of the District Associations;
2. In Registration and as a Clearing House;
3. In the Financial Administration;
4. In Co-operation—(a) With Societies; (b) With Religious Bodies; (c) With Public Departments;
5. In Suppressing Vagrancy and Street-begging;
6. In the question of Employment;
7. In the Formation or Establishment of Provident, Preventive, or Remedial Agencies, especially among Children;
8. Through Standing Committees and Conferences for the discussion and promotion of Charitable or Social Economy.

B. The best development of the work of a *District Association* of a Society for Organizing Charity, viz.:

1. In the form of Administration;
2. In the relation of the Agent and Visitors in its work;
3. In Co-operation with—(a) District Societies; (b) District Religious Bodies; (c) And with Public Departments;
4. In Provident and Preventive Directions—as Loans and Savings—and in work among Children.

C. Is Public Out-door Relief in a Town necessary and beneficial, and where it exists, what should be its relation to that of Voluntary Agencies?

PAUPERISM; ITS CAUSES AND CURE.

CONDENSED FROM A RECENT ADDRESS GIVEN BEFORE THE PHILADELPHIA BAPTIST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, BY REV. C. H. KIMBALL, PASTOR OF GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH.

For the sake of clearness, it will be necessary to begin with a definition "Pauperism." It is not right to class under that term the occasional and providential cases of need and distress. During the past winter, whole communities in the West suffered terribly for want of food and fuel; but they were not paupers. Persons who are suddenly reduced by calamity from affluence to penury, are no more to be treated as paupers than a slight cold is to be treated like consumption. Yet, any given case, not wisely treated, may lapse into well-defined and chronic pauperism. It is a matter of character, rather than condition. The genuine pauper will still be essentially a pauper, though supplied with steady and ample income. He must be "born from above," else he cannot see the kingdom of self-sustaining independence.

Mendicancy, the disposition and habit of begging, is the characteristic mark of pauperism. To the victims of simple misfortune the necessity of asking aid with no prospect of repayment is the most humiliating part of their lot. But the real pauper is vexed when he loses the opportunity of begging. Openings for labor give him no joy, for the means of self-help may shut the door to beggary.

Pauperism is a chronic, grievous disease, and where it takes firm hold, it makes its victim helpless, and warps and vitiates his whole character. It is but just to say that these pitiable, if vicious, objects are so darkened in moral and mental vision, that, like the man far gone in his cups or under the spell of a powerful drug, they are incapable of realizing their deplorable state except through aid from without.

Pauperism is hereditary. As certainly as the worst humor in the blood, it holds possession from generation to generation. It has this infamous pre-eminence, that it destroys the moral sentiment. It is a loathsome moral disease, a measureless curse to society, and to all our great cities it is a menace of evil.

Shameless lying, persistent pilfering, disgusting filth, and hardened brutality are its well-known characteristics. Unspeakable lewdness, with utter disregard of every moral claim, indelible savagery rooting out all natural affection, even from the mother's heart, are its blighting features, and make of whole districts miniature hells and their houses graves of loathsome decay, degrading men and women below the very reptiles, and making old criminals of young children. To those who carry on labors of humanity where pauperism is fully developed, these facts become familiar. The reports of the Society for Organizing Charity, the Society for Protecting Children, and the Police Courts, give faint hints of the monstrous evils; but the shocking details known to the agents and officials cannot be laid before the public. Do not think these statements extravagant; I could verify them all from my own observation during the past winter.

Of general causes of pauperism, the most important are, idleness, perverted religious sentiment and drunkenness.

In this city there are scores of families living in squalor and misery, though the parents grew up in homes of luxury and abundance. When a child so reared comes to be thrown on the world by financial reverses, having always eaten the bread of idleness and been taught to look on honest toil with contempt, his whole life has prepared him to accept the infamous maxim, "the world owes me a living;" and by that that token the world receives in him a ready-made pauper. The boy or girl in any home, who is allowed to eat bread without being occasionally called on for some real work, is not only an easy graduate to sin and crime, but is being educated for pauperism. Idleness means unnatural dependence, and that ordinarily means degradation. Idleness not only produces but perpetuates pauperism, since it makes it impossible to provide any means of living except through vice and mendicancy.

Perverted religious sentiment, considered as a cause of pauperism, is too large a subject for satisfactory treatment here. All the great religions, when their true sentiment has been lost to sight, have produced mendicants and mendicancy. Christianity has suffered from this abuse. In Europe, religious mendicants have given a certain savor of sanctity to pauperism; and for most of the mendicants who curse our country, the ecclesiastical pauper-making processes of Europe are responsible. Most religious bodies have weakened the sense of the private right to property by claims of their own. These claims have been enforced, sometimes by the governmental taxing and tithing, sometimes by ecclesiastical disciplines and threatenings. And when a man ceases to regard his earnings as his own by right, it is but a step to a loose theory of his neighbor's rights, and a short step farther to the two woeful perversions of communism and pauperism.

Moral and intellectual debasement; wrong views as to the claims of man on man; blindness to the worth of independence, and the true uses of property, and, indeed, to most questions affecting man's relation to his fellow man, are largely due to perverted religious sentiment and false religious teaching.

Next among potent causes come *intemperance and the liquor traffic*. The saloon-keeper is a *vampire*; he sucks his victim's blood; he is a hyæna ever ready to feed on the putrid flesh of bloated humanity; a jackal that will dig the grave itself to prey on that which death has left alone; a wolf that savagely gnaws the bones of his slain at the door of his den, where may always be seen the horrid remains of men whom he has more than killed. In the train of foul disasters which this embodiment of iniquity brings upon society, pauperism stands out in large and ghastly proportions.

Minor causes are outgrowths of these three, or closely allied to them. Licentiousness, tobacco, improvidence, waste, are so coupled with intoxicating liquors that they would soon cease without its use.

Indiscriminate almsgiving is another powerful agency for creating and fostering pauperism, and this also is often one form of religious perversion. In this respect we of the United States are sinners above all others. So long as careless hands bestow, there will be plenty of beggar palms stretched out to receive. Pauperism feeds on indiscriminate charity and finds valuable gulls in the people who soothe their consciences by small doles to all who ask.

The cure of pauperism is not to be accomplished in haste. Chronic and deep-seated evils demand a long period for their extirpation. No plan which wants the element of permanence deserves to be considered. First, there must be created a public sentiment in regard to paupers and

pauperism which does not now exist. Some progress has been made, partly from the interest felt in abating the tramp nuisance; but the public mind is not yet awakened and enlightened enough to give effective moral support to radical measures. The soup-house is still a true representative of the general sentiment. We have only recently come to face the fact that this ulcer of pauperism is eating its loathsome way into the body of society. Lawyers and Satan understand the unintelligent sentimentalism of the public. Some human beast commits a crime that makes one's flesh creep to hear of, yet the skillful advocate secures his acquittal in the face of damning evidence by playing upon the sympathies of the jury. When some cold-blooded villain steals millions from the public, or pockets in one grand effort a whole banking institution, the wily lawyer brings his interesting family, or his pretty wife with timely display of innocence and tears and sorrowing female modesty, to kick justice out of court and send the triumphing robber, free of punishment, to the bosom of his family.

Unreasonable sentimentality has nourished pauperism and mightily hindered the efforts for its cure. The surgeon who disregards the suffering of the patient that he may with knife and saw remove the festering limb and save his life is his true friend. In applying the rough remedies we shall call forth cries and groans and tears, and some of them genuine, too. It is natural, and essential to benevolence, that our sympathies should be easily moved. Charity and sentiment are almost interchangeable terms. But the indulgence of the sentiment by merely temporary relief may in the end increase the evil, and therefore sentiment must sometimes be repressed that cool judgment may have sway. It must be firmly established in the minds of the benevolent that pauperism is a crime, or a disease, and not unfrequently both. Reason must have the first and ruling place in dealing with it, and generous feeling must often stand aside. Moreover we must regard the maxim of the greatest good to the greatest number. It is a sound principle, upon which also jails, prisons, pest-houses and asylums are built, to separate the criminals and the infected from the mass of the people. Sumptuary sanitary laws often work hardship and loss to the few, but are defensible on the sound principle that the community is of more consequence than the individual. Quarantine detention may injure one city, but preserves an hundred from plague or yellow fever. This principle must hold in regard to pauperism. It is a spreading disease, a multiplying crime. When its vicious hand knocks at your gate its unclean breath breathes upon your life and into your home. When you throw food into its basket, or lay silver on its palm, you have opened a commerce that may lift it up, or sink it lower and pull you down with it. Which it shall be depends on how, when, where and what you give. It is part of the Divine plan that when a nation or a tribe becomes so debased as to stand in the way for ill to the family of man they are swept away. When "violence filled the earth," the flood came, desolating the globe. When idleness and crime make it needful, disease and death come in mercy as God's messengers, and cleanse the evils all away. Where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together as scavengers. Pauperism, a dead and loathsome thing must be removed. Let me speak with care lest I be condemned for want of heart. If heroic treatment be demanded, it must be given. Society is bound to give the pauper a fair chance to rid himself of the foul disease; if he will not accept it, let him die. If helpless he must be helped. But when salvation, brought to him, urged upon him and made accessible, is rejected again and again, it is best for him and for society that he be left to himself to die.

I will now introduce a more specific cure prescribed by the word of our Lord: "Withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly * * * If any would not work, neither should he eat * * * Exhort that with quietness they work and eat their own bread." (2 Thess. iii. 6-12). Inducing or compelling the pauper to work is the one measure underlying all others for the radical and permanent cure of pauperism. It has its origin from God, is commanded by His word, is of universal application and can be made available in an infinite variety of forms.

I am not aware that any systematic effort has been made to this end on sound business principles. Nearly all have been spasmodic, piecemeal efforts, on a proclaimed basis of charity alone. Benevolence must leaven any plan; but enduring progress can be made only through business wisdom and business agencies. One hundred thousand dollars, or probably much more, has been expended in this city during the past long hard winter for alleviating the sufferings of the poor. Suppose \$50,000 could have been diverted to the purchasing of ground and erecting factories to employ unskilled workmen; that next year \$50,000 more could be put into buildings for making common pottery, woodenware, brooms, common tiling, rag carpets, wooden chairs, or for such coarse work as

is ordinarily done in prisons, the design being to employ those who need benevolent aid. Suppose that when the mendicant calls at your door, you kindly and promptly point him to this house of Industry, or give him a work ticket in place of the soup ticket. It should be a fixed rule 1st. To give no money, that employment may be freely sought elsewhere, and that none may depend permanently on this help. 2nd. To induce every applicant to find employment elsewhere as soon as possible. The apprenticeship, and the character formed and maintained in this factory, will be the best recommendation for employment elsewhere. Here and there some small experiments of this sort have been tried, and always with most gratifying results, indicating the great possibilities that lie in such a method, if generally and persistently carried out.

The proportion of able-bodied paupers is very large. This is because the weakly die young; the robust live; they become weather seasoned, and can endure to beg at your door in the most bitter winter weather. An overwhelming majority of them are capable of doing good solid work, and the State and City authorities should hold them to it. Pauperism is a menace to the State, which has the right to protect itself. If our city and town authorities would insist, by wisely framed laws, on putting the idle and vicious at work—not as criminals, but because to live they must eat, and eating requires an income—and would pay them fair wages for their work, society would, in time, demand constitutional protection against voluntary mendicancy as a crime. But society will not do this at present, and perhaps never. Perhaps it never ought to do this. It can be educated to regard pauperism as a contagious disease, like small pox or yellow fever, and while pitying the victim may insist that he be put under restraint and surveillance. I know of no law at present that treats the pauper other than as a criminal. But remembering that idleness, intemperance and religious superstition are prime causes of his disease, the law should compel him to work, and be temperate, and allow religious teachers only such approach to him as is now allowed the Prison Chaplain to the prisoners.

The next element in the cure must be *education*, and that compulsory. Ignorance and vice are not more closely allied than ignorance and pauperism. A large per cent of our paupers have been brought up in ignorance. It arouses my anger almost to rebellion to see ignorant multitudes crowd the polls to determine the profoundest interests of state or nation. The very ignorant have little idea of the worth of knowledge, and little desire for it; they look upon the educated as natural enemies, upon whom they are to prey. They will not seek education. The firm hand of the law must compel the children to enter and remain in the public schools till they have mastered a fair working education.

The last means of cure is, *organized endeavor* of benevolent persons. 1. To prevent careless giving. 2. To detect fraud and imposture. 3. To aid the willing to find employment. The benevolent must "pool their gifts" for judicious distribution in an organization that will not make "giving" its chief object, a practice which is as likely to do harm as good. Mendicants swarm around public breakfasts, soup houses, etc., as flies swarm around a dish of honey. Able-bodied paupers are on hand at free lunch, while they avoid a wood yard or a gravel pit, though offered reasonable wages. If you organize simply to give, you make beggars; the supply of means will increase the demand. If you organize to help the needy into independent self-help, the good accomplished will be real and lasting.

And here I want to commend with all the emphasis at my command, the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity. It is doubtless defective, because human. But, along with Societies kindred in character which are being established in other large cities, it is beyond all question the most sensible organization our country has yet seen for dealing with this question of pauperism. Its aims are higher, its methods more satisfactory, its general characteristics more admirable, its spirit more humane, its machinery more simple and more comprehensive than any other of which I have any knowledge. It deserves the warmest fellowship and co-operation of those who desire to elevate, not simply to feed, our pauper classes. It appeals particularly to the Ministry as the stalwart enemy to ignorance and vice; it appeals to the benevolent men of wealth, in that it aims to abolish this non-producing, cash-consuming class; and finally it appeals to all the charitable, in that its chief aim is to make all charitable gifts produce a permanent good.

A word to my brethren in the Ministry. We have held the forefront in battles for moral reform. We cannot ignore this evil of pauperism. It is our business to think out carefully the best methods for its eradication; and in the fear of God, with love for all humanity, to advocate and defend them.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. C. D. Kellogg, Secretary of the Philadelphia Charity Organization Society, being called upon, thanked Mr. Kimball for his able and lucid paper, and added: He has not

overdrawn the picture as to the fearful character of pauperism in this city. A clergyman was here recently from England, who was familiar with the worst places in Glasgow, London and Manchester. He was shown the worst places in our city, and on returning to his convention, being asked what he had seen, said: "I have been to the mouth of hell!" There is need of more charity among charitable workers for each other. Benevolent agencies have too little sympathy and co-operation, and are working too much in isolation and competition. We should throw aside our personal preferences and co-operate with each other for the general uplifting of the degraded and downfallen.

Rev. J. W. T. Boothe, D. D., said: Our gin-shops are making ten paupers where we cure one. If our citizens would organize for the removal of intemperance much could be effected. The cities are controlled by the rum influence.

Rev. J. S. Gubelmann said: This is an excellent paper. I agree with it all. But there is another cause of pauperism, the want caused by imperfect economic social condition. Wages are often not sufficient to protect people from pauperism.

Rev. Mr. Kimball responded: The whisky bill of Ireland, last year, would have paid all the rents in the famine districts. A man who complained of his low wages told me recently that his cigars cost \$4 a week. It is the poor, the working people, who complain of low wages and of the tyranny of capital; and yet it is they who drink the rum. Kansas has suffered from famine; but there is less pauperism there than in any other state, because it was settled by men who carried stern and honest principles with them.

THE ROMAN CHURCH AND ORGANIZED CHARITY.

It is often asked "what is the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church towards Charity Organization." We have yet to find that this ancient and venerable body has pronounced for or against it any more than any other religious bodies collectively. Different leaders in that church hold different opinions, as they are more or less familiar with the aims and principles of the "new Charity." For centuries this Church has had its charities better systematised than any other body, civic or religious; and from its well-known conservatism, we could hardly expect that all its administrators would at once surrender their traditions and join a new system, until it has proven that it had well matured its plans. But many of those who are foremost in appreciating the imperative need of concentrate^d and associated charitable methods, and in applying themselves cordially to their development, have been staunch members of the Catholic Church. Organized Charity has no more loyal and earnest adherents than Cardinal Manning and the Duke of Norfolk in London; Bishop Ryan in Buffalo, and Bishop Chatard in Indiana. And at the recent formation of the Charity Organization Society in Cleveland, Bishop Gilmour put himself squarely on the record in favor of this vital reform. At the public meeting to launch the Society, he spoke as follows:

"As I understand the object of this organization, it is not to interfere with anything now in operation, but, on the contrary, to give assistance to the different existing organizations; it is not the intention to control, but to enlarge the sphere of Charity.

"Now, I do not think that any one organization exists in the city that would not interfere, more or less, with an extension it is proposed to make of the Bethel organization. Its object, as I have had it explained and have, to some extent, learned from my own examination, is to gather together from the different societies knowledge and information, and to collect from such sources as it is able similar information, and then to distribute the results to persons who need such knowledge to enable them to judiciously distribute Charity.

"There has been a good deal said about contracting Charity. I don't know that we need to contract Charity. I think our object should be not so much to contract as to judiciously distribute Charity where it is needed. That, at present, there is a good deal of Charity given where it is not judicious, I do not think there is a doubt; and that there is a good deal that might be done in the way of judicious distribution, I also believe. I believe that the same amount of Charity that is to-day distributed, if but administered more judiciously, would be far more advantageous to the poor, who are its recipients.

"Now, as I understand it, the object of this Society is not to contract Charity where Charity is deserved, but to give information where Charity

may be judiciously distributed. I think that any attempt to organize this Association upon any other plan would be a failure, because it would antagonize the present existing organizations. I do not think, either, that it should be an organization that would recognize Church, creed, color, or nationality; but it should be one that would embrace the entire body of charitable citizens of Cleveland, without regard to creed or color, or Church. [Applause.]

"I believe further that it should be an organization composed of business men and keep clergymen and churchmen and those of that stripe out of it, because when you begin getting churches into these things, at once you begin to get in little, contracted ideas, here and there and elsewhere. That is my view about that. I say, therefore, keep the churches out of it. Keep any of the members of the existing organizations out of it. Let it be formed on a broader basis than any of these things. This organization does not pretend to interfere with them, for it says: 'Let these private organizations manage their affairs by themselves. All that this organization pretends to do is to give information and to balance and correct, so that one organization will not be supplying aid where another organization is doing the same.

"As far as we are concerned, we give this organization our hearty co-operation, if it is established on that broad basis, so that it will eliminate all there is of narrowness and make it broad, and, as we say, make it Catholic—I do not mean Roman Catholic." [Applause.]

EFFETE CHARITIES WITH PLETHORIC TREASURIES.

We learn from the London REPORTER that the London Charity Organization Society heads a movement to petition Government for a re-arrangement of the Parochial Charities of the City of London (the old City proper), of which the following interesting statement is given:

Through change of circumstances, the intentions of the donors of these Charities could no longer be carried out. The decrease in the population of the City within the last few years was enormous. In 1851 the population was 131,127; in 1861 it was 114,039; in 1871 it had declined to 76,236, and the next census would probably show a decrease to not far from 50,000. There were now 108 civil parishes, only 16 of which contained a population above 1,000. Ninety-two parishes had only 20,974 inhabitants among them, an average of about 220 each; 22 had not 100, and five had less than 50. The demolitions for public improvements had turned out the poorer classes, so that, wherever the poor were, they were not in the City of London. Witnesses before the recent Commission used such words as these: "There are no resident poor," "There are practically no poor," "Have tried in vain to find three poor persons," "There may be a poor person, but cannot tell." In one parish the "resident poor" consisted of one widow. On the other hand, the money value of the Charities had borne an inverse ratio to the population. In 1865 it amounted to \$137,400, in 1870 to \$426,050, and in 1876 to \$506,925. The income, in fact, was far larger than was required. And how were these funds appropriated? In the first place, the sum of \$150,000 was spent in direct doles to what were called the poor of the City in the shape of bread, money, and clothes; and these doles were, in the opinion even of many of the witnesses who gave evidence before the Commission, a source of demoralization instead of benefit to the recipients. \$10,000 went in apprenticing, and much of that was practically wasted, as apprenticeship was almost obsolete, and would soon be replaced by the technical school system; \$50,000 was spent, even more unjustifiably, in paying poor rates; some of the money was spent for testimonials, for wine, and in "vestry entertainments;" and \$90,000 was spent for education, at an extravagant rate, in schools, some of which were not under Government inspection. In view, also, of the expense of management, and the scandals in connection therewith, that had been brought to light by the Royal Commission, it was clear that this large sum was doing no good where it was, while it would, if wisely directed, do great good elsewhere. Moreover, with all this money available, the rate and cost of pauperism in the City were proverbially high in comparison with those in neighboring unions. Thus, on the authority of the Returns made to the Commissioners, the ratio of paupers to population in the City was 1 in 16, the number of out-door paupers 2,521, and the annual cost of out-relief per head of population \$1.09; whereas in the adjacent union of Whitechapel, the ratio was 1 in 51, the number 112, and the cost 2½ cents.

In May a Conference was held with Members of Parliament and others to consider by what means Government support could be obtained for a proposed bill to distribute these now wasted endowments over a wider area, and to establish a governing body for them.

Mr. C. S. Loch, Secretary of the Charity Organization Society, urged the necessity for measures to prevent the continuance of these Charities on their present footing, and a statement for the Home Office was placed before the meeting.

The Chairman (Lord Henniker) had experience in administration of the Poor Law and as Chairman of a Charitable trust, and this taught him that the Charities of the country as a whole have almost invariably the strongest possible pauperising influence. It is our duty to minimize this unfortunate influence as much as possible. The great City of London is far behind the rest of the country in this particular respect. Everywhere it is the same old story of wasteful expenditure in doles, which has made Charity so pauperizing and degrading throughout the country. In London the evil is greatly intensified. There are few if any of those left who were intended originally to be benefitted by these Charities. We cannot expect those who are interested in administering them to initiate reform themselves, though many of them would gladly see the alteration made. It is rightly the part of Charity Organization to strengthen the hands of those who are moving Government to bring it about.

Mr. Albert Pell, M. P., without charging misconduct in the administrators, said that they had fallen into that dreadful gulf of conventionalism which was full of mischief. They set the physical above the moral wants of men, and the result was great degradation among the poorer classes, who had thus been educated to improvidence. After careful observations in the City he had hardly found a case in which the circumstances were such as to justify the application for this form of assistance. He did not mean to say that when the thermometer was at zero and a man had no coat, that one should not be given him at once; but that to provide the first necessities of life was liable to work mischief. Money should be spent in promoting the principles of the Charity Organization Society. He should be glad to see large portions of these Charities devoted to the purchase and maintenance of open spaces for the people; in something for their proper and necessary amusement and recreation; for providing play grounds for the schools; and for the expenses of a "day in the country" for poor people—this was the original idea of the charitable who had left money for feasts.

Mr. Bryce, M. P., explained the proposed bill. The City of London is about one mile square and its population at present is reduced to about 50,000. The churches and parishes were still there, and a whole army of church-wardens and vestry clerks, who were now useless, but are still kept in office. The churches, except two or three, have audiences of but five or six persons. The income of the Charities in 1876 had increased to \$505,000, or an average of \$10.10 to every inhabitant of the city. But a very large proportion of these are well-to-do persons, engaged in large warehouses and sufficiently well paid by their employers. How is this money spent? Chiefly in church purposes—part for lectures in the churches. A good deal in rebuilding, redecorating and repewing the churches, though nobody went there. A good deal more went to paying the poor tax, thus giving Charity to the rich who otherwise would pay it, at the expense of the poor. A considerable portion of the money went in doles, which they could only hope would do no harm, for they could never, by any manner of means, do good. A good deal of it was perfectly "muddled" away. It might go into that elastic item, "expenses of management," and a good deal in "social purposes," which would be allowable if not taken out of Charity money. In point of fact, there appeared to be no limit upon the expenditure, and no reliable records kept of it. The only remedy was to make the funds available for the people. This money was left for the poor inhabitants of the city, who are now spread over a wider area, and we must remove the local restraint and distribute the money over the whole metropolis. It was a farce of honoring the wishes of the testators, while defeating the spirit of their Charities. The trustees seem to think that they have a certain right to the money they are handling, and so oppose all reforms. The bill simply proposed to take funds that are being wasted and use them where they would do good. It appoints a Commission to be paid out of the Charities, that shall inquire into the condition and administration of all the Charity funds and consider all existing claims. The surplus money could be applied to proper ecclesiastical purposes over the metropolis, by appropriate bodies, to promote education (especially technical education), provide museums, free libraries, art collections, etc.; to establish recreation grounds, commons and open spaces where a large population was growing up, and to establish provident institutions for the poorer classes. It would also forbid the application of the funds to the poor-rate.

Other speakers stated that the parochial authorities had resolved to combine to prevent any reform which would loosen their grasp on these fat trusts, and that the intervention of the Charity Organization Society was most opportune. These charities are now wholly disorganized and

need to be properly organized to correct the grossest abuses. In one case where a small sum was left for a "love feast," \$300 was now annually spent on a dinner for the parish officers. The vast income, rescued from such perversions, should be expended so as to elevate and assist the poor of the whole metropolis. It was decided to invoke the early and active co-operation of the Government.

A MINISTERIAL VIEW OF ORGANIZED CHARITY.

The Rev. Dr. Jackson, the present Lord Bishop of London, a man quite as eminent for his public spirit and his practical sagacity as for his high position, has uttered his views of Charity Organization in a few well considered remarks as Chairman of a recent public conference in London, called to consider the relations of this subject to ministers and clergy. These remarks are worthy of a thoughtful perusal by the readers of the REGISTER.

He treated the question from the point of view of his own experience as a parish minister. He had been impressed with the necessity for such a society for many years, and would be glad if all would follow its principles of investigation. The Society had now existed for 12 years, and he could congratulate them on the cure of many former defects. Street-begging was not wholly suppressed, but has been checked. Begging letters are less frequent and the old forms of letters (varied stories from different quarters all in one hand-writing) have disappeared. Now these can be put into the hands of the Society, with certainty that a careful inquiry will be made about the writer, and help given if really needed, or withheld when it would have been worse than wasted. This investigation took great anxiety from one's mind, for it insured against the injustice of a deaf ear to any appeal, and also against the injury of wasteful giving to the underserving. In some London Parishes visitation has been improved, and its effect was shown in the greater "manliness" of the poor, as well as in greater readiness to give, since it was known that money would not be thrown away; for Charity had been limited by doubts as to imposture. His own experience was that out of thirty applicants, only one was a true case for relief. Great care is necessary to prevent the impostor from obtaining what was intended for the necessitous poor. He laid down as a rule for his Parish that the best Visitor gave least, and that no money nor tickets should be given at any house, unless on positive evidence that there was sickness or sorrow needing immediate relief. He would rather allow £3 or £4 to set up the head of a family in work, than permit doles of shillings. Giving of trifles did great harm; it encouraged vice, discouraged industry, lessened self-respect and wasted means which might have afforded adequate help. The law distinguishes between the pick-pocket and begging letter-writer, but there is no moral difference between them. In both cases there is fraud and robbery, and the careless giver encourages those who make fraud the purpose of their viciously-spent lives. This careless habit also discourages independence, honesty and industry. The man who worked hard for two or three shillings a day, saw his begging neighbor bring home five or six shillings without work, and he could not see how "honesty is the best policy," when the dishonest beggar could live better than he. Also, if an industrious woman kept her house cleaner than her neighbor, her wants were less noticed by the Visitor than were those of the untidy and neglectful woman. Injury is thus done to tidiness, which is the handmaid of thrift, frugality and self-dependence. Moreover, Charity funds are limited, and all given to the unworthy is lost to the deserving. The Charity Organization Society, by rightly directing these funds, does the highest service by assuring to the worthy the money intended for them, and thus encouraging true Charity and discouraging vice and imposture.

Complaints have been made, as was to have been expected; a few from excellent people, but most of them from those who have been detected in their imposture. Tender-hearted people, on hearing these complaints, thought the Society was "hard." He regarded such complaints as evidences of success, not failure. The Society had not checked the flow of Charity, but had rightly checked its maladministration and indiscriminate flow. Now and then some deserving case had been reported as undeserving, but such were very few, and the wonder was how few mistakes had been made.

It has been said that the Society is "inquisitorial." Inquiries are useless if not strict. All would regret unnecessary pain, even when unintentionally given. Some are extremely sensitive and would rather bear than disclose their wants. But inquiry is as necessary for the Visitor as for the Physician, who cannot prescribe without first being inquisitorial.

It has been said that Machine Charity hardens the heart. There may be some slight danger of this in learning to refuse, but much more in finding out that the majority of cases were undeserving, and that the

worthy received very little of what was meant for them. There is more real self-denying Charity in taking pains to get at the truth, and then helping effectually, than in giving indiscriminately in small doles. "Giving" is a small part of Charity. God has implanted Charity in our hearts; but it should not be exercised spasmodically and ineffectually. There is no self-denial in that sort of Charity. Charity is a duty, not a luxury. Every one should set aside a self-denying portion of his income for regular and systematic Charity, and should learn to feel that the proper application of this was a sacred obligation to God and man. The Organization Society has done a good work in preventing the overlapping of Charities, and may do much more by preventing the formation of new Societies to effect purposes for which the means already exist. Great and grievous waste of money and effort has resulted from this, and the Society should give a gentle hint in such cases, at their beginnings.

A PHILADELPHIAN IN LONDON.

Our esteemed fellow-worker and fellow-citizen, Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland, of the 27th Ward Association, has just returned from a brief visit to London, where he made most industrious use of his time; not among the musty relics of a dead past, but in careful study of the live issues of to-day. Thus he appeared at a number of public and private gatherings for the consideration of important religious and social problems, and our British cousins, having discovered his faculty of saying sensible things in a forcible manner, gave him but little rest in that line. Among other speeches of his reported, we copy from an English exchange, the following uttered at the Conference at Exeter Hall, May 5th, which is noted in another column. Dr. Wayland being called upon to speak for Philadelphia, was received with hearty cheers, and said:

"He could not call himself 'one from the provinces,' nor was he quite a 'young man from the country.' If he had visited this country a century ago, he doubtless would have been called a 'colonial,' but now he came from a centre of America—although, for the matter of that, every town in his country was a centre, and every city was a metropolis. [Laughter.] He proceeded to say that in America, as a comparatively new country, the problems connected with Charity were more simple and more easily solved than in a country like England. When the people were poor, there was little to give, and there were few to ask, for they depended more upon work; but where there was a nation which might have more wisdom, more wealth, and more leisure, they would have more demands made upon them for Charity. He said that, in America, the principles of the Charity Organization Society were beginning to be adopted, and much information was derived from the writings of Miss Hill and Sir Charles Trevelyan. The Charity Organization Society in Philadelphia had not tried to occupy the place of any other Society, for it never gave anything (if it could help it); but it tried to make other Societies more efficient by bringing them in communication with each other. He described how the Secretary of the Society pigeon-holed every Society; and when a case came before the Committee, they brought out of the pigeon-hole the Society which would deal with that case, and recommended the case to it, after proper inquiry. A Jew who was sick, would, for instance, be sent to the Jews' Hospital; a Scotchman would be sent to the St. Andrew's Society; an Irishman to the St. Patrick's Society; and so on, by which arrangements each benevolent Society would be called upon to discharge the particular duty which they had themselves elected to discharge. Thus the benevolent Societies were made more useful, each in their own direction. He would not say that they worked without jealousy, for he was afraid that human nature was very much human nature all over the world, and they had jealousies in the New World as in the Old. He was much pleased to hear, as one having a common origin with this nation, the remarks of other speakers, showing that there were people who decided to wait to see if the thing were a success or not before they joined it, or before they decided to let it alone. In Philadelphia it is sometimes said: 'Is this train going right through? because, if it is, we will get on board.' [Laughter.] That was to say, if the Society was going to be a success, they would be willing to join it. He urged them not to be startled at being opposed, and not to feel disheartened at having committed mistakes, because, he said, those mistakes would be a means of education. The Secretary in each district in America was paid a small salary, but the visitors were voluntary. The latter, he said, put their whole heart into their work, and soon got to be very shrewd in the inquiries which they made. There was a very great deal to be done in teaching the people how to make the best of what they had,

both with regard to money and to food. The poor especially, in many places which he had seen, had a degree of extravagance which would ruin a wealthy family. It was only those who were living on Charity who would use the better quality of flour, and very few of them knew the greater value of oatmeal than of the best flour. In America they were trying to get over these difficulties by establishing cookery schools, and by teaching the women how to get a proper meal. He described, amid laughter, how a number of persons sat down to a dinner, cooked at one of these schools, and which cost six-pence per head, and then went on to explain the efforts which were being made to inculcate habits of thrift among the people of his country."

His remarks about mistakes recall another speech before the Liberation Society, reported in the *National Baptist*, in which he said that he was asked: "Do not your people make any mistakes?" "Why, yes, they made a heap of them." He was glad to say it, for mistakes were a mark of life. The only people who did not make mistakes were dead people. [Laughter and applause.] He saw a man last week who had not made a mistake for over 4,000 years. It was in the British Museum, in the Egyptian department. (Loud applause.)

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

JUNE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

An offer was received and accepted to provide for the printing and distribution of such portions of the papers of Drs. Richardson and Harts-horne, read at the June meeting of the Assembly, as contain valuable hints for the guidance of the poor of the city in the care of their children during the summer season.

The office hours of the Central Office were fixed for the summer at 9 to 2 on Saturdays and at 9 to 4 on the other days of the week.

Messrs. John H. Atwood, Nelson F. Evans, Thos. C. Hand, Jr., Dr. Chas. E. Cadwalader, Albert B. Williams, Miss Anna Hallowell, Mrs. J. P. Lesley, Philip C. Garrett and the General Secretary were appointed delegates from the Society to the 8th National Conference of Charities and Correction at Boston, on July 25th to 30th; and the Vice-President was authorized to add other persons at his discretion.

The Presiding Officer and General Secretary were authorized to execute a lease from the Philadelphia Soup House for their property at 338 Griscom Street, for one year, at the nominal rent of fifty cents per month, for the uses of the 5th Ward Association of this Society.

A STEREOTYPED BEGGING LETTER.

We have received from Ralph Waldo Emerson and Oliver Wendell Holmes, begging letters written to them from this city, duplicates of each other and almost literal copies of several others in our possession, received from other persons, indicating that similar appeals have been sent to every prominent person here and elsewhere whose address was accessible to the writer.

Two of our Ward Associations have carefully investigated the case, and are satisfied that to respond favorably to these letters is, to say the least, making a very unwise use of charitable funds.

The letter to Mr. Emerson is as follows:

1529 ALDER STREET,
Philadelphia, Pa., April 13th, 1881.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON, Esq.,
Concord, Mass.

DEAR SIR:—Will you kindly pardon the necessity compelling my intrusion upon your time and kindness. My husband, W. A. Engarde, journalist and traveling newspaper correspondent—who is now ill—has had the pleasure (while representing prominent New England, Boston, Massachusetts, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and other papers) of making favorable and pleasant mention of your literary productions, etc. Under ordinary circumstances this would not have been drawn to your kind and generous consideration, but my husband's continued sickness having placed us in extremely depressed circumstances, we being entirely without means and resources, and having six little children dependent upon us, I write to solicit some slight pecuniary aid, to relieve our present trouble and distress. Whatever you can spare, however small the contribution, will be very gratefully accepted. God will bless you and yours for any kindness bestowed, and should an all-wise and merciful Providence permit the restoration of my husband's health, upon the resumption of his journalistic duties any favor extended will be remembered and reciprocated. At this writing we have not even the common necessities of life. Trusting this appeal may meet with your favorable and early consideration, I remain, with deep respect,

Very truly, yours,

(Signed)

MRS. MARY C. ENGARDE.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

USE OF INSTITUTIONS.

Boston, July, 1881.

If the plan, so warmly advocated and so eagerly adopted during the last few years, of organizing or associating charities should become permanent, it will naturally modify in some cases our estimate of the need and the benefit of old-established charitable institutions. Such institutions, directed usually by persons of well-known integrity and supported by voluntary contributions, have perhaps been too much sheltered from adverse criticism. If it were suspected that any one of them was doing less good than it claimed, or spending more money than was necessary, the withdrawal of a subscription was the harshest measure thought of.

In the distribution of private charity it used to be supposed that the only objection to giving to beggars was the danger of encouraging impostors, and that no amount of help to the worthy poor could be otherwise than beneficent. But we are now more exacting in our investigations; we demand to know not only (not chiefly indeed) whether the applicant for our help is really poor and honest, but whether the help he asks is such as will be of advantage to him and to the community, radical, permanent and economical. And if we are to make these inquiries of an individual who asks help, how much more of a charitable society, where, if harm is done, it is more injurious than in single cases, not only from its affecting greater numbers and involving a larger amount of money, but from the greater weight of its example. And while the theories of the Associated Charities make such an investigation necessary, their methods of working give great advantages in pursuing it.

The Visitor for the Associated Charities giving no alms from that society, but obliged to look to other sources for the help of which he sees the need, is led almost of necessity to observe and compare the advantages and disadvantages of public and private charity, of individual relief and that given by a society. Help for cases of real need is readily obtained, but the question arises in what form can it be most advantageously and economically given. Is it best for a child, an invalid, or an old person to be received into an Asylum or so-called "Home," or to be provided for separately, in some family able and willing to care for him if his expenses are paid wholly or in part; or should he receive such assistance as will make it possible for him to remain in his own home?

In the perplexity that arises as we see the various evils accompanying severe poverty, whether as its causes or effects, we naturally turn for help to those who, having given special attention to any special class of cases, may be supposed to be able to relieve us of a part of our difficulties.

If a "home," or hospital, or asylum of any kind will take charge of even one of a family for whom we are seeking to provide, we are apt to think that just so far our path is made clear, and that we may give our whole attention to the others. The immediate relief is so real and so great, immediate and apparent expense so small, that we do not feel inclined to look out for possible objections. It is the object of this article to draw attention to some of these objections, not as universal or inseparable, but as requiring the attention of the Visitor before he hastens to seek from an institution the solution of the difficulties that so sorely perplex him.

1st. An institution is in many cases a very expensive way of caring for the poor. For instance, if a mother is left destitute with three or four children, the amount those children would cost in an Orphan Asylum would be enough to maintain them in comfort at home; and probably in many cases of illness not involving the necessity of special medical attention the patient could be as well cared for at home as in a hospital, if half the amount which the latter would cost were to be added to the resources of the family.

2nd. By putting a person in an institution we weaken the ties of family responsibility and affection. There are some families from which it is desirable and even necessary to remove a child or an invalid, but where it is poverty alone which compels the separation we can hardly hope to give any benefits so great as those we take away, and especially in the case of a child the influence of family life is seldom wholly evil, even if the parents are far from what they ought to be.

3rd. The assistance given through an institution is apt to be accepted with more greed and less gratitude than that given personally. Many a family that would be ashamed to be dependent on charity will allow one of its members to become an inmate of a charitable institution, especially if the charity is disguised under the name of a home or a school.

The form of these objections, and of others which will suggest themselves, will, of course, vary with the circumstances of each case. Many of the asylums, especially the various homes for children, recognize the difficulties, and have done much to overcome them by a careful system of boarding out; and it is only intended here to draw the attention of Visitors to them, that by the careful watching and recording of separate cases the experience of each may be made available to all.

THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO

held its third annual meeting on Thursday evening, June 9, at the Fitch Creche. The attendance was large. Mr. E. T. Evans, President of the Society, occupied the Chair, and Mr. J. G. Munro acted as Secretary in the absence of that officer.

The President, in a brief address, reviewed the history and work of the Society and made the following statement of its purposes, as concerns the recent large gift of property received from Mr. Fitch: "The Board has hardly been in possession of Mr. Fitch's gift long enough to do much, but they have prepared a carefully tabulated estimate of the value of the property. Measures have been taken for realizing the necessary funds for the proposed Fitch Institute building. As soon as the cash available is known, they propose to ask for plans both for an ordinary building and a fire-proof structure. This will contain, besides offices for the C. O. S., a free reading room, a lecture room, a provident dispensary, a penny bank, and other schemes more particularly named in Mr. Fitch's deed to the Society. The building is to be known as the FITCH INSTITUTE, and be located on the lot adjoining the Fitch Creche. After the plans have been decided on, proposals for contract will be asked for and awarded, and the work begun without delay."

The report of the Treasurer showed the receipts from January 9th, 1880 to January 9th, 1881, to be \$1,455.86; the expenses during the same period were \$4,284.76, leaving a balance on hand of \$171.10.

The annual report of the Council to the Society, read by Mr. Sheldon T. Viele, proved to be an exceedingly interesting paper. It covered the work of the Society from Oct. 1, 1879, to Jan. 1, 1881, the statistical year having been changed in consequence of a change made in the keeping of the books at the office of the Overseer of the Poor. The summary of work appears in the following table:

Number of cases investigated from October 1st, 1879, to January 1st, 1881:

Cases decided not requiring relief,	220
Cases decided unworthy,	82
Cases decided for Poor Law or Ineligible,	53
Cases referred to the Overseer,	213
Cases referred to Co-operating Societies,	247
Cases referred to private persons,	67
Cases assisted by grants,	50
Cases assisted by loans,	20
Cases assisted by employment,	596
Cases of emigrants, non-residents and tramps,	422
Total,	1,970

Comparative results of Official and of the Society investigation:

Class I. Overseer of the Poor—	
Total number of applicants for "out-door relief" investigated by the Police from October 1st, 1879, to January 1st, 1881,	1,575
Pronounced worthy by the Police and received aid,	1,249
Pronounced unworthy by the Police and received no aid,	294
Pronounced unworthy by the Police and received aid,	17
Pronounced worthy by the Police, but did not apply for aid,	15
	1,575

Class II. Charity Organization Society—	
Total number of foregoing applicants investigated by the Society during the same period,	1,575
Pronounced by the Society worthy,	966
Pronounced by the Society unworthy or not requiring relief,	609
	1,575

Class III. Financial Statement—	
Total amount of out-door relief given by the Overseer during same period	\$42,874 84
Amount approved by the Society,	\$35,627 69
Amount disapproved,	7,247 15
	\$42,874 84

On the effects of the official alms-giving, which goes on with so little rule or principle, the report speaks out strongly and emphatically: "All classes are aroused when an outbreak of small-pox is threatened, and private citizens and officials alike demand universal vaccination. Pauperism, unless checked, bids fair to become, in a not far distant day, a greater moral and physical scourge for the entire community than any one other disease, however dreadful. That pauperism is a disease, and can be checked, and in a great degree eliminated, is proved by what the Society has accomplished here, and other organizations working on similar plans have done elsewhere. But the Society will be comparatively helpless unless it has the intelligent support and co-operation of all the officials and of all classes of the community.

"The Society can only reiterate what it has so often said before, that 'out-door relief,' as now administered by the city officials, tends directly to the growth of pauperism. It is a vicious system and must be changed. This can only be accomplished by the growth of a healthy public opinion. The defects of the system are not the fault of any one public officer, but of the system itself. The policy of investigation has caused a striking decrease in the amount expended; but to effect lasting good a radical change of administering the city relief must be made. So long as the present system is continued and a constant rotation in office of those administering the funds is kept up, so long the evils will continue, and danger exist of their breaking out in an aggravated form. It is almost impossible for an official to become fairly intelligent in his office before his term expires; and constant temptation exists to use the office for personal or political ends."

From the Creche Committee an interesting report was read by Dr. Charles Cary, embodying the following statement:

For November, 39 children admitted. For March, 61 children admitted.
For December, 81 children admitted. For April, 171 children admitted.
For January, 69 children admitted. For May, 321 children admitted.
For February, 76 children admitted. Total for 7 months. 818

It is the desire of the committee to be able to provide some suitable vehicle for the conveyance of children to the Creche from distant parts of the city. The usefulness of the Institution would be greatly increased by that measure.

Mr. J. H. Dormer gave an account of a recent interview which he had had with the munificent friend of the Society, Mr. Benjamin Fitch, of the City of New York. Mr. Fitch had intimated that he might yet increase his gifts, and had expressed a desire that the Fine Arts Academy and the Mechanics' Institute should both be provided for and established in the FITCH INSTITUTE building. His own collection of art-works would ultimately, he said, find their home in Buffalo. Mr. Dormer expressed his hope that Mr. Fitch will be present when the corner stone of the contemplated building is laid.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, June 25th, 1881.

To the Editor of the "Monthly Register":

I beg to transmit the following account of the history and scope of our Society:

The Cincinnati Associated Charities borrows its name from the Boston Society, and in its plan of operations chiefly follows the excellent models set it by Philadelphia and Buffalo. It was organized on November 18th, 1879, at a public meeting of citizens, presided over by the Mayor. Some time previous had been devoted to a detailed examination of the practical working of the new system in other cities, and its careful adaptation to the local needs of Cincinnati. Its origin and earliest promotion are to be credited to the women of Cincinnati, who have from first to last been active workers and wise counselors in this cause, rendering invaluable services as Directors, Superintendents and Visitors.

OBSTACLES AND AIDS.

The new system encountered considerable opposition at first from prejudice and sectarianism. It was denounced as cumbrous, costly, and unchristian. It survived all such attacks, and either converted or silenced its most pronounced opponents. It has also taken much effort to secure the attention and enlist the interest of the general public in the new Charity. During the past winter much has been accomplished in this direction, as increased contributions and a more general co-operation assure us. We are gradually establishing cordial and efficient relations with the various Churches and philanthropies of Cincinnati. The Israelites have given us their warm and substantial sympathy. With the Roman Catholic Charities our relations are pleasant, though not particularly effective. The terrible losses that Church has experienced in this diocese cripple its charities and make it more than ever dependent upon our aid. The long established Relief Union of this city is not as yet on our list of co-operating Societies, but we hope to secure a full and friendly understanding with it before another winter sets in. Our main obstacle has been the inefficiency and indifference of our municipal relief agencies. For two years past the city has given no out-door relief save grants of coal during three months of winter, while the city institutions have been crowded to excess with inmates. This fact and the inadequacy of the Relief Union, have somewhat diverted us from our main purpose as an agency for securing the organization of Charity, and made us a general dispensary for the direct relief of the

poor. We have not, however, lost sight of our central principle, and are earnestly striving to carry it out in spite of all difficulties and drawbacks. Investigation, registration, co-operation and visitation are the four lines of our activity, and in all of these directions we claim to have made progress, though we are still far behind the showing made by some other cities. Meanwhile, our encouragements are many. We have gained a better understanding of the needs of our city, and the adaptation of the new Charity to them. We have secured the public interest and sympathy, enlisted the entire newspaper press of Cincinnati on our side, demonstrated the merits of the system through a winter of exceptional severity, and enrolled on our list of workers, many of the brightest minds and warmest hearts in the community. In private worth and social influence our Board of Control, both central and local, are exceptionally strong. These considerations and a firm belief in the practicability, simplicity and economy of the new method of Charity administration, assure us of the ultimate triumph of our cause in this city.

STATISTICS.

The facts about our Society and its work may be summarized as follows;

We are still in the provisional stage of our growth. In addition to a Central Board of some fifty members (district delegates, representatives of co-operating Charities, ex-officio members, etc.) we number seven district Societies, covering fifteen of the twenty-two Wards of Cincinnati. These Societies maintain eight local offices, with Superintendents, Visitors, etc. The distinctively German Wards have thus far remained impassive to our appeals for organization.

There is also a Central Office, which maintains a general registry of cases, and has begun a library of reference. A Visitors' Conference meets monthly, and though not large, is increasing in numbers and interest.

The local Societies raise their own funds by a faithful canvass within their districts. It is estimated that during the past year some \$7,500 have been contributed to their treasuries, two of the Societies being only a few months in existence. The Central Board has no paid officials save its clerk, all the work done in this cause (aside from the salary of Superintendents, — one dollar a day and less) being voluntary and gratuitous. It is now proposed, however, to engage a paid General Secretary, the work having grown beyond the ability of volunteer services. Another serious question pending in the Central Board is whether in the coming autumn the entire city shall not be re-districted, Ward lines being discarded and great natural thoroughfares made the boundaries, thus permitting a larger assignment of territory to each local Society and a reduction in the number of local offices maintained. The statistics of cases, etc., for the past year cannot be given until the annual meeting of the Society in November next. The movement now includes some 125 Directors, 200 Visitors, 7 Superintendents and some 2,000 subscribers. The co-operating societies enrolled are the Young Men's Christian Association, the Women's Christian Association, the Cincinnati Union Bethel, Cincinnati Orphan Asylum, German Orphan Asylum, Charity Branch of the Associated Mission of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Children's Home, Free Kindergarten, Jewish Hospital, Union City Mission, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, and Woman's Free Dispensary. The city institutions represented are the Police, Board of Health, City Infirmary, City Hospital, City Workhouse and House of Refuge. The Mayor of the city is ex-officio President of the Society. Its Executive Committee consists of Hon. J. D. Cox, Chairman; George Thornton, General Secretary; Wm. J. Breed, Treasurer, and Mrs. George Hoadly, Mrs. R. S. Rust, Mrs. A. H. Hoyt, Mrs. M. F. Force, Rev. R. S. Rust, D.D., H. Thane Miller, and Rev. Chas. W. Wendte. The First Annual Report of the Society, a neat pamphlet of 42 pages, contains a full account of the history and earlier operations of the movement in this city, and together with any other of the publications of the Society will be sent free to any applicant.

CHAS. W. WENDTE.

LETTER FROM THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.

At the annual meeting of our Board of Associated Charities, held June 16, there were present very many clergymen of the city, several of whom took part in the exercises. Reports of the work of the Board for its third year, ending June 1, 1881, were presented, some items from which may be of interest.

In addition to the work of volunteer Visitors to the poor, more than 8,000 calls were made or received, and 1,243 different cases received attention, including over 1,000 applications for assistance. In these differ-

ent cases office aid, consisting of employment, advice, and material aid in cases not otherwise provided for, was given 1,852 times during the year; while 301 applicants were referred to our different co-operating Relief Societies for needed help. During the year we had 522 applications for employment, 259 applications from employers, and employment was found for 364 persons, more than 100 of whom were put in permanent situations. Besides this, employment was provided at our Wood-yard during the year for 279 of our able-bodied town-poor, and for 222 homeless men and boys, who paid by their work for 984 lodgings and 1,255 meals. 38 women and girls were provided with 160 lodgings and 280 meals, giving in return such work as was needed in the house during their temporary stay. At our Central Wardrobe 733 garments were given out in 210 different cases of need. On Thanksgiving and Christmas special appropriate contributions of food were distributed among more than 100 families, and delicacies and proper diet were provided for many sick persons. A spring bed, loaned to us for that purpose, was made use of in summer in many cases of sickness. There are about 4,000 persons in the different dependent families on our records, of whom say 800 are under almost constant observation and care.

The entire cost of our work during the year was \$1,748.59, including house and office expenses and the services of our matron, investigating agent and book-keeper. For relief, \$396.07 was expended out of \$471.47 given for that special purpose. The employment department (Wood-yard) this year, as last, was self-supporting. Some 250 cords of wood were bought, costing about \$1,000, the kindlings from which, when sold, sufficed to pay for the wood itself, and for wages or provisions to workmen, lodging-house rent and care, and team for delivery, with a small profit carried forward. It is not intended to make any profit on the Wood-yard, but to pay out as wages all that can be made on the sale of kindlings. Those men who do faithful work, yet cannot support their families, are always helped over "hard places," while those who refuse to work when able, are not only refused help or recommendation at our office, but are reported to relief agencies and charitable people as unworthy of their aid. This is very satisfactory to all but the tramps or town-beggars, who have heretofore lived upon the community; without any alternative to a benevolent person but to help all, lest some of the worthy poor should suffer.

We do not, however, pass by the unworthy poor, who in some respects need assistance more than others less degraded; and 88 such cases, comprising some 300 persons, are now under the friendly supervision of our volunteer Visitors.

Of these Visitors we now have 100 persons ready for service as needed, 53 being on duty at the present.

THE NEWPORT CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY

gives the following guide for discriminating between different classes of cases:—

I. WORTHY CASES NEEDING RELIEF.

1. Aged persons unable to work, and without relations to support them. 2. Protracted illness, severe accident, or special infirmity, where aid may wisely save a family from sinking into pauperism. 3. Widows unable to support families of young children.

II. FAMILIES NOT EQUAL TO THEIR OWN SUPPORT.

Dull work, low pay, sickness of the father or mother, who support the family, or of a child to be supported, these and like causes make people seek relief. Let visitors find, or offer, or make work. Sewing, washing, charring, errands, work of any kind is so much better than gratuitous relief, to tide over a hard place. Of course, steady work in a well-paid occupation is the thing to advise or find.

III. SHIFTLess CASES NEEDING COUNSEL, STIMULUS AND WORK.

1. Where a man or woman, or a boy or girl over 14 years, does not find work, or does not stay at work, or spends in the summer all his or her earnings, relying on relief through the winter; and *needs to be taught industry and thrift*. 2. Where too much is paid for rent, or tobacco, or liquor, or dress, or in any unwise expense; and *economy needs to be taught*. 3. Especially where such cases have begun to rely on aid (from the city, or societies, or churches, or individuals,) and *need to be taught self-respect*.

IV. CASES NOT NEEDING RELIEF.

Many are getting aid who can earn their own support, but prefer the easier way. Energy is often in proportion to the need. Aid must be cut off from all who have the means, or can earn their own living, or are making a bad use of help.

V. UNDESERVING CASES

need to be treated with wise and firm severity. Wherever liquor, or

thieving, or imposture, or any form of vice has got hold of a family, reform must be the main thing to aim at. The Board of Reference will decide how to act.

THE BOSTON WAYFARERS' LODGE.

The Report of the Overseers of the Poor of Boston, for the year ending May, 1881, gives the following information concerning one of the city's charities, which is of interest wherever similar enterprises are contemplated:—

"The Wayfarers' Lodge is meeting with that success which justifies its establishment. The police are relieved of those who do not belong to the criminal class, but who require care and some public supervision, to prevent being led into mischief. The public streets are relieved at night of a vagrant population, and better order is preserved, as they remain within its walls. There has been, during the last year, a large increase in the number accommodated. This is explained, however, by the activity of business, which has attracted laborers seeking employment to the city, by the increase of immigrants landed at this port, and by the new tramp law, which has driven this class from the rural districts, where they are more liable to be arrested as idle persons. The number of lodgers has been 23,983. Single meals furnished, 39,308.

"When it is considered that this number, together with those who received more material assistance, are obliged to make compensation by work for the aid they have received, it is evident that the money expended is not entirely lost. During the past year a large and commodious wood-shed, covering the entire yard, and other improvements, have been made from the profits derived from the sale of wood sawed and split upon the premises. Within a few years, if a like success in the future corresponds with the present experiment, we may be able to receive a revenue which will materially reduce the cost of maintaining the establishment.

"Of 434 men, seeking relief at this office, who were sent to the wood-yard to work, 43 left without working, and 391 worked 1,643 days."

In the interest of the truest economy and humanity, no city can long afford to be without a similar establishment.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLISH CASUAL WARDS.

The following abstract of a reply from Major-General Lynedoch Gardiner of the Marylebone Guardians (London) to our inquiries regarding methods prevailing there, shows the working of one of the best managed Casual Wards in that city, and will suggest points for similar provisions for wayfarers here:—

* * * * * I wrote to the Clerk of the Marylebone Guardians, on receiving your note about vagrants, to send me the printed rules which are hung up in the Casual Wards; but after some delay he told me he was unable to get a spare copy, but that they are not special for Marylebone, and I dare say you will have got them, as they are, I believe, issued by the Local Government Board.

You are aware that for the last two years we have adopted the separate system. There are 94 cells—65 for men and 26 for women and 3 double cells for women and children. Nothing can exceed the comfort and cleanliness of these cells. They are kept at an even temperature, and you or I might pass a night there in perfect comfort at any time of year, but they are not popular with the tag-rag and bob-tail. The number of admissions vary from 250 to 300 per week. Every one has to take a bath; fresh, hot and cold water being turned on as required. All the clothes are taken away and fumigated, and a clean flannel dress provided meanwhile. In summer admission is at eight o'clock, in winter at six. Bread is given for supper, bread and gruel for breakfast, and before leaving 4lbs. of oakum have to be picked; but the oakum is placed in the cell on admission, and anyone who wishes to get out early next morning can easily do the task (which is simply a small labour test) over night.

No resident in the parish or neighborhood is admitted, and a month must elapse before re-admission.

In old days the Casual Wards used to be crowded; now they are not half full.

Yours very truly,

LYNEDOCH GARDINER.

Accompanying the above came a set of the rules of the London Casual Wards, which may be seen at our office by those interested in opening similar refuges here.

FOREIGN CHARITY ITEMS.

On the 5th of May two Conferences were held at Exeter Hall, London, under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society, to consider questions bearing upon the principles of the Society. Besides the opening address by the Lord Bishop of London, a sketch of which is given in another column, an able paper on "CHARITY ORGANIZATION IN ITS RELATIONS TO MINISTERS OF RELIGION" was presented by Rev. T. W. Fowie, M. A., of Islip, Oxford, showing that the Society does not so much ask the clergy to help it do its work as it helps them do theirs in the most intelligent and effective manner. He affirmed that charity, like everything else that has to do with the science of human life, must conform to the law of progress, and that a new policy and fresh methods are required to replace the old, which, good enough in former times, are nugatory and insufficient in ours.

The Charity Organization movement, as being not only devised to meet pressing practical evils, but also based upon essentially true ideas, claims a welcome from the clergy because it enables them to accommodate the ancient and eternal law of charity to the changing conditions and novel emergencies of our own times; especially by means of classification, combination, and inquiry—in one word, organization. And in answer to the thought, sometimes outspoken, always more or less lurking in the mind, that co-operation implies the loss of sentiment or of privacy, he urged that personal gratification in its highest sense may still be indulged in the spectacle of large results to which, as individuals, we have contributed an unknown factor; nor is the element of romance itself wanting to the bare statistics that disclose, still less to the imagination that can realize, the progressive happiness of the human family. And as to privacy, remembering how subtle is the taint of selfishness, which, even in acts of beneficence, looks for some personal recompense, we shall find that by means of combination we can fulfil, not figuratively, as such commands are too apt to be taken, but literally, the injunction not to let our left hand know what our right hand is doing.

The movement has advanced so far and has so challenged public attention to itself, that delay is no longer possible. Every man interested in charity must make up his mind upon which side he will be, for he that is not for the truth is against it. We have at our disposal the means whereby the Reform of Charity can be carried out with the aid and to the advantage of the clergy and the churches, but with or without that aid the movement must go on, unless the stream of time should take to flowing backwards.

Sir Charles Trevelyan also made a forcible speech to show the hopelessness of efforts to cultivate thrift in the face of that mis-called charity which brought the poor to self-indulgence and wretchedness. Referring to the growth of the Society from 16 districts to 39, he said the enemies of the Society now dubbed them the "40 thieves save one," showing the same persistent ignorant jealousy which exists in some quarters on this side the ocean.

Several other speakers continued the discussion.

In the afternoon Lord Elcho, M.P., presided, and the topic of "London and Provincial Aspects of Charity Organization" was treated by Mr. W. Moggridge, Editor of *Social Notes*, Mr. Cleland Burns, Chairman of the Glasgow Society, Rev. Dr. Wayland, of Philadelphia, and others.

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold presided at the Annual Meeting of the London Charity Organization Society, May 4th, and delivered a forcible and well-considered address on the objects of the Society. Sir Richard Cross, M.P., Mr. James Bryce, M.P., Mr. W. Rathbone, M.P., General Cavenagh, Hon. Lyulph Stanley, M.P., and others also spoke. His Royal Highness and his sister the Princess Louise are both amongst the Vice-Presidents of the Society.

The total number of paupers in the London Workhouses, on the last day of the fourth week in May last, was 49,310, and 38,837 received out-door relief—a total of 88,147, which is a reduction of 8,630 from the number at the corresponding date in 1878. There is apparently still room for reduction.

To St. Jerome belongs the credit of founding at Bethlehem, A. D. 300, the first Christian Hospital. The oldest Hospital in Europe, now in use, is the Hotel-Dieu, in Paris, founded by St. Landry, Bishop of Paris. The first Hospital opened in England was built in Canterbury by Archbishop Lanfranc.

It is stated that Convalescent Homes have so multiplied in England that there is no longer any difficulty in gaining admission for patients; indeed the latter are becoming fastidious, and boldly express their preferences.

The St. Pancras Board of Guardians (London) is composed partly of women, one of whom at least (Lady Lothian) is an earnest worker, fully alive to her responsibilities.

New Charity Organization Societies have been formed in Burton-on-Trent and Swansea.

NOTES.

PUBLIC POOR RELIEF.

Mr. R. D. McGonnigle, who has for ten years given active service and thoughtful study to the administration of Public Poor Relief in Allegheny County, in this State, has recently written his views on that subject, from which we quote the following. The extracts are interesting, in view of the efforts of this Society to cope with both the evils in question:

DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

The Almshouse is certainly no proper place for a child, and the community that permits its young to be brought up in such places, must, sooner or later, rue its action. I am strongly opposed to aggregations of children anywhere, whether in an almshouse or orphan asylum. The associations are nearly always injurious. Nature is under restraint, the child becomes "institutionized," and the spirit of self-dependence is annihilated. In mature age such children will probably be either criminals or paupers, and certainly not the class of citizens with which this country's welfare could be safely entrusted. I know of no better system than the "family" or "home," and just as soon as our children are old enough we place them with some respectable and suitable family, keeping a vigilant supervision over them until their apprenticeship expires. We find the plan to work well, both for the City and the children. In my opinion, no child should be kept in an asylum when old enough to be placed out, for in nearly every instance the same objections hold good in an orphan asylum as in an almshouse. Some Poor districts state that they have found trouble in finding families who were willing to take pauper children. That is not our experience, and I think the difficulty might be easily overcome by placing the young out early—before they have become contaminated with their surroundings in the almshouse, for this is the only valid objection which families raise. It appears to me that what we imperatively require is an act similar to that in operation in New York, making it a misdemeanor to keep a child in an almshouse when over four years of age. When such a measure shall become law and the children are removed to families and asylums now in operation, the question of the Poor districts or the State building homes on the family plan, similar to the Ohio or Michigan system will develop itself and work its own success. You say the "criminal" children should be sent to the House of Refuge. I question whether any child is criminal. A child may commit offences, but hardly crimes, and I still think the practice of committing children of the tender age of four, five, six, and even seven years as "incorrigibles" and at the mere request of a parent, who may have his own reasons for wishing to get rid of the little one, is evil in the extreme. As the law stands now Magistrates have that power, and there are plenty of shiftless, disreputable parents, who are willing to swear that they have no control over their offspring. If they were compelled to pay for the support of the children at the school there would be fewer applications, and if magistrates would take the trouble to inquire into each case brought before them, they would sign many less commitments. Our laws now make "crime" the price of admission to the reform school and house of refuge; it would be better to have "poverty" the price of admission, and have the institutions changed from a reformatory to that of an educational and industrial character.

EMPLOYMENT.

While there may be some hope of reforming the worker, there can be none in the case of the chronic idler. It seems almost incredible that any enlightened community can doubt the wisdom of employing both their prisoners and their poor, yet it is a fact that in some places but a small percentage of either class are required to work for the bread they eat. At our City Home and Poor Farm all are required to work, excepting those who are incapacitated by reason of mental or physical unfitness. Idleness is productive of nearly every evil which Poor authorities and Magistrates are cognizant of. The men and women that sit down with folded hands in an almshouse, are not very likely to exert themselves when discharged, to seek their own living. A life of indolent ease, even when accompanied by the plainest of fare, has peculiar charms for some people, and rather than stretch out a hand to help themselves they will be content to spend a lifetime in an almshouse and even a jail, if exempted from work. The poor-house that has no em-

ployment for inmates in the winter as well as in the summer, is badly managed and is doing a vast amount of harm in the district in which it is located. It may be contended that there is but little field-work in winter. In answer to this, the question may be asked: does the farmer sit down in idleness when there are no longer crops to care for and harvest? The willing hand can always find something to do, and the wise management will see to it that none have an excuse for laziness. The carpenter can work at his bench, the tailor on his board, the smith at his forge, and the shoemaker, tinner, broom, brush and mat makers in their shops. The laborer can look after live stock, keep roads open, mend fence, assist mechanics, and do a great variety of other work. None need be idle, and if any are so it is the fault of those in charge, whose duty it is to see that taxpayers are not imposed on.

A suggestive paper on the Insane Poor follows. The pamphlet containing the whole may be had on application to the Central Office of this Society.

THE CHARITY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The following is a list of the Societies, coming strictly under the above head, of whose existence we have been advised. We will be glad to add to the list from time to time, as information is sent to us.

NAME.	LOCATION.	ORGANIZED.
Charity Organization Society,	Buffalo, N. Y.	Dec. 11, 1877.
Board of Associated Charities,	New Haven, Ct.	June 1, 1878.
Society for Organizing Charity,	Philadelphia, Pa.	" 13, "
Bureau of Charities,	Brooklyn, N. Y.	Nov. 26, "
Charity Organization Society,	Newport, R. I.	Feb. 18, 1879.
Associated Charities,	Boston, Mass.	" 26, "
Charity Organization Society,	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	June 9, "
Associated Charities,	Cincinnati, O.	Nov. 18, "
Charity Organization Society,	Indianapolis, Ind.	Dec. 12, "
Associated Charities,	Portland, Maine.	" "
Association of Charities,	Detroit, Mich.	Feb. 11, 1880.
Society for Organizing Charity,	Cleveland, O.	Jan. 14, 1881.
Society for Organizing Charity,	Salem, N. J.	" 29, "
Associated Charities,	Taunton, Mass.	May 28, "
Associated Charities,	Lowell, Mass.	Apr. 26, "
Charity Organization Society,	Baltimore, Md.	" 30, "
Associated Charities,	Washington, D. C.	June 7, "

Movements in this direction are in progress in Cambridge and Quincy, Mass., in Hartford, Conn., and in Princeton, N. J., and we hope soon to chronicle the actual formation of societies in each of these places.

POLISH IMMIGRANTS IN BUFFALO.

Buffalo is experiencing a rapid influx of Polish pauper immigrants, whose squalid condition creates much anxiety. The Poles heretofore residing in that city (always among its poorest classes), encouraged by the increasing laxity in the management of the out-door relief, impoverished themselves still more last autumn by sending all their summer savings to their friends in Poland to aid them to come over and join them, telling them that Buffalo is a wealthy city, that labor is abundant, wages high, and that if work fails the Poor Master will support them. The consequences have been that last winter the resident Poles came upon the city in large numbers for support, and now hundreds more are arriving, in the most destitute and wretched condition, who must be relieved by the public purse. Ignorant and incapable of any but the coarsest labor, which cannot be at once provided for them, although they are honest and willing to work, they are overcrowding the vilest quarters of the city in such proportions as promises to breed a speedy pestilence.

Dr. Wichern.—The death of Dr. Wichern, of Hamburg, is worthy of notice from all who love their fellow-men. Wichern was one of those natures which are possessed by an impassioned sympathy for suffering humanity. Germany has had many such during this century. Johann Falk, Pastor Fliedner, Wilhelm Lohe, Ludwig Harms,—are but a few of the names. Like them, he made himself a centre of work of beneficence of various kinds, and left a large number of persons who have shared in something of his spirit. The Rough House at Hamburg was, first of all, a house of refuge for neglected children, and Dr. Wichern showed his fitness to have charge of such a home by the influence for good he acquired over the inmates. He also deserves the credit of originating the family system for the management of such children. Instead of keeping them all in one huge caravansery, he grouped them in households, with separate buildings for each, and the care of a house-mother. The necessity of giving them industrial education forced him to become a printer and publisher, and, besides the *Flying Leaves* (*Fliegende Blätter*), a periodical publication, he issued a great quantity of religious and useful books. The Rough House became a centre of religious influence, as well as of admirable training, which it gave to those who served it as teachers. We are glad to learn that

the new Presbyterian Orphanage of this city is to be modelled on the plan of the Rough House, with separate homes for small groups of children, where their individuality and their need of motherly care will be recognized.—*Penn. Monthly*.

Charity, Not Almsgiving.—Referring to the new method of saving by postage stamps, the *Daily News* says:—"Any system which appeals to the sense of independence and strives to awaken the pride of self-support deserves encouragement, and at any rate trial. Charity, in the sense of almsgiving, is the least charitable of actions. The penny stamp, put away of his own free will, and out of his own pocket, is worth infinitely more to the poor man than the guinea given in 'relief.' In fact, the one thing bears within itself the opening of possible future prosperity, while the other strikes at the root of every courageous effort. Thrift is as surely the stimulus to energetic advance as almsgiving is paralysis."

Outdoor Relief.—Our Dublin correspondent writes at a recent date;—"The tendency to encourage abuses which the extension of the outdoor relief system affords was illustrated yesterday in the case of a man described as a 'snug' farmer, whose wife had been receiving 12s. 6d a week from the Union while she lay ill of fever. The relieving officer stated that in the field about the recipient's house he saw six cows, four heifers, and forty sheep. The guardians were indignant at the discovery, and the clerk was directed to demand that the money expended from the rates should be refunded."—*Times*.

In a report of the London Mendicity Society a conversation is given which was overheard between two of that class of begging women who sit in the streets, got up to look as deplorable as possible, with a child in her lap: "How much (rent) did you give for your baby?" "A shillin'." "Then you've been done, or babies is riz. I only gave sixpence for mine, and they feeds 'em and Godfrey's cordials 'em, and all afore I goes out into the bargain."

CASES.

Case 89.—MEDICAL CHARITY.—At the request of the Managers of a leading Dispensary, one of our Superintendents recently investigated the lists of its beneficiaries, and the result of 450 cases examined is as follows:

Worthy of Relief	275
Unworthy of free treatment	73
Impostors giving false addresses	96
Doubtful	6
Total	450

The investigation was as to the ability to pay, and not as to moral character. We give a few of the unworthy cases:

- Eliza H—, a tailoress, single woman, earning \$12 to \$14 a week, came for free advice and medicine. She spends freely at the beer shop, the money that should pay the physician and druggist.
- Mary D—, owns 5 houses, worth about \$20,000. (Gives as her address an unoccupied part of one of her houses in a degraded neighborhood, that Visitors may be impressed with the bare and wretched appearances.)
- E. McC—, Keeps a confectionery store. Procures free treatment and medicine for a relative living with him who has property soon coming to him. Both could pay if they choose.
- is a saloon keeper, doing a thriving business, and owns the building he occupies.
- owns her house and receives a pension also.

These are fair samples of thousands who defraud the charitable intent and provision of every Dispensary in the city.

Case No. 90, 22nd Ward.—A— came from England, bringing wife and family, with golden expectations. Failing the realization of these, and finding no demand for his special branch of weaving he went insane. Our Visitor came upon the family at their wits' ends and without resources. After a supply of pressing wants she interested herself in procuring test jobs of work for the wife, who did so well that she has now respectable and profitable employment. The man gradually improved and learned cobbling, and with the Visitors' aid in finding work, adds considerable to the family earnings. A permanent place was found for the eldest boy, and they can now dispense with charitable aid.

Case No. 91, 22d Ward.—Mrs. — was left by her husband with three small children. He went West in search of work. She was a burden on the Ward Association most of the winter. It was ascertained that the man earned good wages, but the remittances home were scarce. Our visitor reasoned and searched out the matter, and it was concluded that were the wife on the spot she might keep her hand on the purse strings. The Guardians of the Poor were interceded with for the expenses of transportation. This, in view of the family becoming otherwise a permanent charge upon the Township, they felt themselves at liberty to furnish. Our Visitor now draws a pleasing mental picture of a happy family reunion.

Officers of each of our Ward Associations are requested to secure, if possible, the attendance of one or more of their earnest workers at the National Conference of Charities on the 26th inst., at Boston. Upon notifying the General Secretary of such selection proper credentials will be issued.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. II }
WHOLE NO. 23.

PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 15, 1881.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
- 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
- 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
- 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
- 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.

6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.

7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.

By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.

By a system of registration to prevent imposture.

By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.

By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or

By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.

By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.

By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—His Honor Mayor Samuel G. King (*ex-officio*)

WARD.

3. A. C. Deakynne, M.D.,
4. Henry R. Edmunds,
5. Wm. S. Price,
6. Thomas M. Seeds,
7. R. C. McMurtrie,
8. Alexander Brown,
9. P. Pemberton Morris,
10. Hon. W. S. Peirce,

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

11. J. Christian Miller,
12. W. Fred. Snyder,
13. Jas. V. Watson,
14. Henry M. Laing,
15. Geo. Burnham,
16. Isaac A. Sheppard,
17. A. H. Overholt,
18. Wm. Y. Colladay,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

- Joshua L. Baily (Pres.)
Rev. Chas. G. Ames,
John H. Atwood,
Rudolph Blankenburg,
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.,
H. T. Child, M.D.,

- A. C. Deakynne, M.D.,
Nelson F. Evans,
Philip C. Garrett,
Thos. C. Hand, Jr.,
Thos. S. Harrison,
Samuel Huston,

WARD.

22. Jabez Gates,
23. Samuel Bolton,
27. Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D.,
28. John G. Williams,
29. Geo. W. Simons,
30. A. A. Catanach,
31. Robert Mair.

- Josiah R. Sypher,
Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph.D.,
Geo. N. Torrence,
James S. Whitney,
Albert B. Williams,
Robt. N. Willson.

MEETINGS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15TH.

Monday, September 12, 3.30 P. M., Board of Directors.

The Assembly Meetings are suspended until October 3rd.

The Women's General Conference is suspended until October 4th.

TO OUR READERS.

If you are interested in the consideration of matters relating to social and charitable economy, and are not already a subscriber to the MONTHLY REGISTER, please send us your subscription.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can

GET YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

FOUNDINGS.

The question, "What shall we do with Deserted Children?" is one that deeply engages the attention of thoughtful minds everywhere at the present moment. Both within and without the borders of Organized Charity, earnest minds and warm hearts are busy in trying to solve the problem. It may not be amiss to state here some of the theories arrived at by men and women of the largest experience, as given in their conferences.

First. No case of a deserted child should be considered complete that does not include, whenever possible, the endeavor to find one or both parents, and bring them to a sense of their responsibility. This work is a private and individual one—strictly confidential—difficult of performance, and requiring uncommon patience and persistence. The results of investigation, in any way that can be traced, should never be recorded.

There are other causes for desertion of children than hardness of heart or absolute unfitness for the charge on the part of the mother. Perhaps she is young and hardly able to support herself. If her child is the child of shame, not only are her few avenues of self-support closed to her, but every influence is brought to bear upon her to induce her to part with her child and conceal its birth. This influence comes from her own family, to whose distress and disgrace she feels she has no right to add. And if she be a girl of exceptional courage and heroism to bear the penalty of her own sin, and atone for it by personal devotion and self-sacrifice for her child, she is met by the last argument which strains her resolution to the breaking point. "It will be better for *your child* to grow up among strangers than with you; better for its future that no finger can be pointed at it as the child of your dishonor." In addition to these influences the pressure comes upon her at a time when, as one of our wisest physicians has said, "her brain can not be clear." Recovering from the most serious illness she has ever known, with physical causes operating to mystify her judgment, weighted either with the misery of remorse, or, at least, with the perplexity of the consequences of her wrong-doing, at a time when most married women are specially guarded against responsibility, *she* is forced to decide. Three months later, as the same good physician has told us, she would gladly recall that decision of separation, and go far and wide to find her child. This is not a universal rule, but it is of frequent occurrence.

This being a fact, it is our first duty to look into such cases with the most thoughtful consideration, knowing that they cannot be classified, but that each one stands by itself, and suggests its own methods of restoration or amelioration to a mind capable of making a diagnosis of the case. We must never sacrifice either individuals or families to our personal theories.

The awakening of a father in such cases to a sense of his responsibility, is by far the harder task, since society has so long punished the woman, but so condoned the sin of man, that what ruins her makes scarcely a ripple in his life, and certainly casts small dishonor on him. Yet there is a large proportion of men who can be persuaded by confidential and patient friends to do their duty towards the new life for which they are partly responsible, and if they can be induced so to provide for it, one new motive is given for future moral restraint, which is a life-long benefit both to the man himself and to society.

Yet when such cases have been properly and carefully attended to, and the best done that can be done, there remain cases that are not amenable to investigation; parents who cannot be found, or, if found, who can not, with any just regard for their own or their children's interests, be united to them. What shall be done with these?

So general has become the expression of a sentiment of preference for a system of family life for deserted children, over one of institutional life, that it is unnecessary to dwell largely upon it in this paper. The excellent letter in the July number of the REGISTER from the Associated Charities of Boston, states many of the arguments concerning institutions so clearly and forcibly that there is little to add to it. The strong tendency of the founders of new institutions, everywhere, is to introduce the cottage or family system, which if more expensive in the beginning is less so in the long run. All experience in Paris and London tends to prove that a large institution bearing the name and known to the public as a Foundling Home, is injurious in many ways, and great efforts have been made with more or less success, to change the character of these foundations. They have proved such an encouragement to vice, in making it easy for parents to abandon their children, that now everything is done to discover the parents, unite them to their children, and send them to country homes together when practicable.

The sanitary, as well as the moral conditions of large institutions for infants, have been too clearly disapproved by wise physicians to permit a doubt of the necessity for some change of system.

But apart from all these considerations the tendency of all institutional life (upon young children who have passed the stage of early infancy) is to produce a mechanical habit of mind which after years can scarcely efface. The rows of neat little white beds, in an institution with rich foundations, are very attractive, and the clean and well-kept little children gladden the eyes of wealthy people, who are distressed with the dirt and lack of comfort in the homes of the poor. But as a rule (though there are noble exceptions) the children who grow up in institutions are not fitted to take responsibility, or to bear a useful part in family life. The exigencies of a farm, for instance, the daily toil and even friction of a tolerably good country family, make it a better school for the development of latent faculties in every child than the best Institution. We have had some personal experience of young persons who had lived from early childhood in one such public home, and have found them in every instance dull and mechanical, never equal to any small emergency, and needing to be cared for still, though past childhood. Two lady managers in one of our best ordered institutions were heard to say, "If we want a young girl for any real service in our households, we would sooner take any chance girl that offered than to take one that had grown up in our Institution."

And yet, the fault is not so much in the management of an institution as in the nature of things which makes family life with its love, its discipline and its emergencies, impossible in a large building where mechanical rules must necessarily prevail to secure the general order.

In Massachusetts, the following very successful system for taking care of deserted children and orphans has been in practice now some twelve or fourteen years, and with the best results.

Boarding-out Committees, formed in Boston, operate on the basis of a small Asylum, in which are kept rarely more than ten, and never more than twenty infants. These children remain in the Asylum seldom more than a few weeks, rarely three months, often only a few days. Homes for two years are found for them by the *Boarding-out Committees* in correspondence with their country friends and acquaintances.* A carefully selected correspondent, or country friend, is appointed to the task of regularly visiting ten or twelve families, in each of which a child has been placed. This Country Visitor has an opportunity to form most friendly relations with the families who have received the children, and a reliable judgment respecting the care given to each child. But the Boarding out Committee visit every family once a year, until each child is adopted, or until a permanent guardianship is established.

The demand for infants which comes in from farmers' families and work people with good homes, is greater than the supply. A large proportion of the families which have boarded children for two years end by pleading a claim to adopt them. Especially is this the case with a class of laborious women, just past middle life, whose own children are married and scattered, and who miss the care which has become habitual in their lives.

*At present there are only twenty children in the Massachusetts Infant Asylum and ten in a branch of the Asylum; but more than ninety are being boarded out.

Pennsylvania is not behind Massachusetts in kind hearts and willing hands, as our noble institution of the Country Week plainly shows, and her working people are blessed with far greater abundance from their soil and on their farms. Nothing is needed for the introduction here of this "more excellent way" of caring for these wards of the public, than that we should exercise the same care and forethought in the arrangement of both city and country committees that our friends at the eastward have done.

For the city work the simple and already efficient machinery of the Charity Organization will give us just what we need. In every corps of Visitors a few can be selected, from the absolute knowledge of their fitness which three years of experience have given, and to these can be added any friends of theirs outside the organization having a special ability for such work. In four of the Wards there are already small homes for the temporary reception of infants. For the Country Visitors the Country Week Association, might readily find one in each community to which their acquaintance extends; the Children's Aid could do the same; any ladies having country friends of wisdom and discretion, might begin the movement in that small and quiet way, which is sure to grow by its own merits and give grounds for hope in a larger movement.

Very rare qualifications are needed for the Country Visitors; they should be not only kind and motherly women as to their interest in children, but should have all the characteristics of "friendly visitors" in families; sympathetic with the mischances that may occur in the best regulated homes, but courageous to remove a child to a better home, where a mistake has been made in the first selection. In this, as in all work where humanity is involved, some degree of moral insight is most important, and that broad sympathy and charity which prevents the sacrifice of greater principles to lesser ones. But the education for work comes in doing it, and the knowledge gained in a few years of the status of families within a given radius of the Visitor, makes her work easier as time goes on, while the sight of the growing children in good homes is an abundant reward for pains-taking.

In all cases, where adoption of a child is sought by childless parents, too much care cannot be taken by the Visitor to consider the personal equation, in any advice or persuasion she may exercise. The child of vicious or diseased parents should be given to those who, knowing all the circumstances, can disregard them in a large compassion that is willing to take the risk. "There are people," says George MacDonald, in Robert Falconer, "whose love to child nature, as such, will blow many ordinary sentiments to the winds. As if ever a child could be their own! That a child is God's is of rather more consequence, than whether it is born of this or that couple." Yet, it is of real value to fit the right peg in the right hole. A child that might be a torment in one family would be a blessing in another. And for the children of promise, promising parents should be sought.

Nothing so ennobles a city or State as a wide-spread increase of responsibility. An institution—even the best becomes closed to public interest in the way of personal responsibility, and necessarily shut up to the conduct of its managers with the use of its funds. But a universal sentiment, with regard to children, and in favor of adoption or guardianship planted in hundreds of families throughout the city and country, is a noble method of carrying out the plan of nature, and imitates that Providence which "setteth the solitary in families."

PENNY SAVINGS.

Those Charity Organization workers in the United States who are especially interested in the extension of habits of providence and thrift among the poor, may find a practical suggestion in the fact that the "Liverpool (Eng.) Penny Savings Bank Association" has eleven agencies in those parts of that city occupied by the laboring classes, at which sums of one penny or upwards are received by representatives of the Association. These agencies are usually in school rooms or in mission rooms, and are open weekly, chiefly on Saturday or Monday evenings. When any one's deposits amount to a pound sterling, accounts are opened for the depositors in their own names at a regular savings' bank of acknowledged stability. These agencies thus conveniently placed render it an easy matter for the working classes to commence their small savings as their wages are received; and supplement the persuasions of the Charity Organization workers in their efforts to instil habits of systematic provision against sickness or lack of work. In this connection we would also recall a suggestion in a former number of the REGISTER, that conveniences for small deposits may be placed at the doors of factories as the operatives are paid off, and before they have been able to reach a saloon or beer shop.

To ensure success it must be made easier for the poor to save their money than to spend it.

PENNY SAVINGS' BANKS.

The Right Hon. Henry Fawcett, M.P., the Postmaster-General of Great Britain, has courteously contributed to our library a full set of the Annual Reports of the British Post Office Department from 1862 inclusive, which record the features, methods and growth of the system of Post Office Savings' Banks and of Penny Savings.

These reports will be found invaluable to our workers, and to others in the community who desire to inculcate habits of thrift and prudence among the poor; as much can be learned by a study of the admirable methods and successful experience therein set forth.

TRAMPS.—The tramps in the suburbs of London are not a hopeful class. The Committees of the London Charity Organization Society, after studying the results of nine years' experience in giving food to tramps to be eaten on the spot, are now satisfied that all of them should be turned over to the authorities. *Not one per cent.* have proved worthy of any but State or City aid, with compulsory labor.

A plan was devised for the benefit of honest seekers for work, by which when vagrants were turned out in the morning from places charitably provided for their lodging, they were given a breakfast, and one-half lb. of bread, and also a ticket entitling them to more food 8 or 9 miles farther on. When the public refused to harbor them because of this provision, the scamps tore up their tickets as soon as well on their way, and would then beg successfully on the plea that the provision named was refused to them. And so a soft-hearted community, too indolent to ascertain the facts of the case, again lent themselves to the encouragement of idleness and vice.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.—Our workers in promoting this branch of instruction will be gratified and encouraged to learn that the Committee on Industrial Art Education of the Philadelphia Board of Education, reported last month that the experimental school opened by them in the Hollingsworth School Building, Locust above Broad, had been in successful operation from April to June inclusive, and that remarkable progress had been made by the 150 pupils. The scope of this experiment was explained in the REGISTER for April. The Committee ask for an appropriation of \$1,500 to maintain the school for another season.

POSTAL SAVINGS' BANKS.

The following extract from a recent letter of the Rev. Dr. Wayland, of Philadelphia, to the *National Baptist*, will be of interest to Charity Organization workers who are striving to promote habits of thrift and saving among the poor of this country:—

"The Post Office is a savings' bank. There are in the kingdom 6,016 Post Office Savings' Banks, or about the same number as of Money Order Offices. If Philadelphia was supplied equally well with Savings Banks it would have more than 140, and there would be one within convenient reach of every one. These Postal Savings' Banks pay sixpence a year on £1 of savings, or 2½ per cent. They present to all savers, first of all, the one great requisite of *security*; they are 'as safe as the Bank of England;' in fact, their security is exactly the same as that of the Bank of England, inasmuch as each rests on the faith of the nation. They come as near to absolute security as is possible in human affairs. Then, they are convenient; they are near at hand; they are open all through the day, and often far into the evening. A deposit made in any one of the offices can be withdrawn at any other office in any part of the Kingdom. Deposits as small as a shilling (24c.) are taken; and in order to help people in making up this shilling, the Post Office issues blanks to which twelve penny stamps may be attached, which when thus filled up is received as a deposit of a shilling. On Dec. 31, '79, there were 1,988,477 depositors, with £32,012,134 (about \$155,000,000) of deposits, or an average of £16 to each depositor.

"It is almost impossible to over-estimate the meaning and force of these figures. A large part of this money, if not thus deposited, would have been squandered, would have been stolen, would have been worse than wasted, would have gone to make the home a hell, and to make brutes out of men and women. As it is, the money represents nearly two million persons in whom the habit of frugality has been commenced. It means a start toward a home paid for, a home either in old England, or in the West, or in Australia, or in New Zealand.

"This is not all; it means 1,988,477 persons who now have a stake in the government, who will not be socialists, or communists, or revolutionists, who will uphold all that is best in the institutions of Great Britain.

"Such a system among ourselves would be a great blessing. The failure of the Freedmen's Savings' Bank was a calamity to the colored people and to the nation that could not be measured. We need all over the country Savings' Banks which shall be secure, convenient, and accessible.

"It is not quite pleasant to read in the Report of Postmaster-General Fawcett the following:

"In the United States of America the Post Office authorities have within the last few years made no less than six unsuccessful attempts to pass Post Office Savings' Bank Bills through Congress, and between twenty and thirty private bills having the same end in view have met with a similar fate; these constant failures having been mainly brought about by the opposition and hostility of the old Savings' Banks and the banking interests. Financial and currency questions have also proved a serious hindrance to the adoption of any such measure. It is understood, however, that the Post Office Committee is making another effort; the Superintendent of the Money Order System at Washington, accompanied by a special agent of the Post Office Service, having recently visited this department, and obtained information to assist in rendering the new bill as comprehensive as possible."

A ROYAL UTTERANCE.

There is so much that is wise and broad and suggestive in the opening address of Prince Leopold, upon the occasion of presiding at the annual meeting of the London Charity Organization Society, May 4th (as noted in the REGISTER for July), that a better service cannot be rendered than to give our readers an epitome of it. He spoke in effect as follows:—

My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In acting as spokesman for the moment of the Charity Organization Society, one feels that he speaks for a cause that is undoubtedly triumphing, yet not so universally triumphant as to make it superfluous to advocate it.

It is a matter for great satisfaction that the co-operation between the Society and the clergy is constantly on the increase. Some of the most active of the London clergy are our members and others are the life and soul of our committees. To the clergy we look for support in our conviction that the moral welfare of the poor needs even more care than their physical. In the huge parishes of London the most active of the clergy feel the lack of ability to care properly for the poor in their parishes. I must beg all such to accept our help: they will find our Committees eager to profit by their local knowledge; and able to bring to their aid a machinery of skilled inquiry, experienced advice, and effectual relief, such as no single individual can possibly command.

Next, as to our relations with the Guardians of the Poor: Here also there is increasing co-operation, and it is to be desired that co-operation shall be as close as possible. Hardly any philanthropic action has been more praiseworthy than that of the educated persons who have accepted the onerous office of Poor Law Guardians, to the great advantage of the poor and of the ratepayers. The improvement in certain districts has been marvellous. Out-relief has been almost discontinued without inflicting real hardship, and with small increase of population in the Workhouses. The people have been made more provident and have learned to support their own relatives. Our Society's work, however, has not been merely restrictive. For every pound sterling which we could keep from being spent unwisely we can suggest a wise way of spending two or three pounds. There can hardly be a more legitimate way of doing good than the bestowal of small pensions on old men and women who have led diligent and provident lives, and are destitute in their old age through no fault of their own. One would wish to see these blameless paupers relieved from the need of asking out-door relief.

Thirdly; as to our Society's relations to the great London Hospitals: the immense increase of population has altered the conditions under which these can be of most use. When a million of out-patients apply in one year, it becomes a question how many seconds can be given to each? Provident Dispensaries are the key to this problem—a movement set on foot mainly by our Society and chiefly by Sir Chas. Trevelyan.

And now as to a matter about which I feel strongly. We who have many enjoyments must often wish to do more than merely keep the poor alive and help them to get work. We would long to give them some actual pleasure, so as to be able to thoroughly sympathize with them in some delight which "makes the whole world kin." Light and air and

green fields and pure water, are the first, the most essential, of pleasures, and are what we should try hardest to secure in some measure for everybody. Such measures as consumption of smoke, prevention of noxious vapors, and of pollution of rivers, and a provision for play-grounds and for maintenance of existing commons and open spaces, seem to be the first we should try to accomplish for the well-being of the poor.

There is one pleasure which can be conveyed at small expense among homes where even light and air penetrate with difficulty. I mean music, a pure pleasure of which Providence has given to rich and poor a like capacity. The crowd around an organ-grinder in a dingy street is enough to show how much innocent pleasure may be bestowed, if we will only take the trouble to provide it. I strongly sympathize with such schemes as the People's Concert Society and others which supply this need. I admire the spirit in which they are working; keeping patronage and charity in the back-ground and coming to the poor as to real companions in the enjoyment of good music. Above all things we ought to aim at finding new opportunities of personal intercourse and friendly contact between the rich and the poor. I think I may say that the need of this personal intercourse is one of the things on which our Society most strongly insists. We would not have people to give less money, but more thought. We need practical workers who will give their presence as well as their checks. We have many good examples in our council and elsewhere of men of ability and eminence—some laden with other duties—who give hours of hard work daily to the task of finding what ought to be done for the poor, and doing it. Let us remember that although the task is more difficult it is also far more permanently hopeful than appears at first sight. It needs thought, care, and personal effort, to a degree that has hardly been realized until these last few years; but we feel that we are not now working in the dark, nor at random. There is evidence that our Society and other laborers in this field are raising permanently both the moral and physical state of the poorer classes, and there is a reasonable prospect that some of the blackest blots on our civilization will soon have ceased to exist. This is an end worth the working for, and there is work for all of us to do.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK.

JULY AND AUGUST MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

It was determined to recommend to the next Annual Meeting of the Society to alter the first line of Article VI. Sec. I. of the By-laws of the Society, so that it shall read as follows:—"The Assembly shall be constituted at the first stated meeting after each Annual Meeting of the Society," etc., thus avoiding an extra meeting of the Assembly for the purpose of organization alone.

An amendment to the By-laws of the Assembly was also adopted dispensing with the September meeting of the Assembly, in view of its occurring while the warm season still continues, and while so many active workers are absent from the city.

The Secretary announced that the 35,000 copies of "Health Hints," for the printing of which private contributions had been specially made, had been distributed throughout the city through the co-operation of the police and upwards of 80 of the local Charities.

Miss Susan M. Hallowell, Miss Cornelia Hancock, Rev. F. C. Pearson, and Messrs. Harold Goodwin, Wm. H. Parmenter and Jos. G. Rosengarten were appointed additional delegates to the National Conference of Charities and Correction at Boston.

Measures were taken to secure a representation of the Society at the Annual Meeting of the "American Social Science Association" at Saratoga Springs, Sept. 5th to 9th, and at the Annual Conference of the "Directors of the Poor of the State of Pennsylvania," at Erie, Sept. 20th.

Joshua L. Baily, Esq., was elected President of the Board of Directors of this Society, to fill the vacancy created by the death of the lamented Dr. H. Lenox Hodge.

THE EIGHTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION

was held in Boston, July 25th to 30th, according to previous notice in the REGISTER, and proved to be a pleasant and profitable occasion. 214 delegates were present from 16 States, the district of Columbia and Canada.

The Conference met by invitation of the State authorities in the Representatives' Hall of the State House—a token of the interest of the community in the objects and purposes of the Conference—and was opened by Governor Long, of Massachusetts, in a graceful and felicitous

address to the delegates, of welcome to the old Commonwealth, a few sentences of which will indicate its character. He said:—

I am grateful for the courtesy which accords to me the pleasure of sincerely though briefly welcoming the National Conference of Charities to Massachusetts. Especially so far as its delegates come from outside her own borders and represent other jurisdictions, our Commonwealth is glad of an opportunity to greet them, to exhibit to them her public institutions and to receive instruction from them in the science of charity and correction. You have met together in Boston, her political, social and commercial capital. This is her State House, in which sat Andrew, Horace Mann and Dr. Howe—names forever associated with those causes of humanity, education and charity in which you are engaged, and to which she has never been disloyal. The chamber in which you sit is that in which the popular branch of her General Court meets less to make laws than to hear all causes of grievance, reform and progress, and especially to promote the general advance of that science to which you give specific study. I should misrepresent her if in any trite commonplaces of provincial pride I boasted of her correctional and charitable institutions, to the inspection of which she cordially invites your criticism and suggestion quite as much as your praise, except perhaps in this, that they are absolutely exempt from political entanglement. For at least to this height she has attained, that in all this matter she values her edifices and appointments, her officers and managers as nothing compared with the best care and true welfare of those dependents, afflicted by ills of body or of mind, or even by crime, who are her wards. * * * * Nor let me, in inviting your attention to the charities of Massachusetts, fail to assure you how much of whatever good has resulted from them is due to private enterprise and contribution; how much has been accomplished by the forceful and telling unity of purpose and action, which has come from the consolidation of these private and local beneficences into county organizations, auxiliary boards, and what in Boston is termed the Associated Charities; and especially how in our Commonwealth the women have come to the front, not only with their sympathies, which are always alive, but with the brightest business tact and administrative ability.

* * * * The State must always needs move slowly, and your inquiries and observations are the best forerunner of its legislation. The myriad fingers of private benevolence and activity that meet the necessities which spring like weeds, yet lose half their value if not directed by the best intelligence and co-operation. What is impulse and misdirection it is yours to organize into steady principles and forces. To you we look for fresh methods of staying pauperism so that we shall not have it to maintain; of preventing intemperance so that we shall not have its intolerable and degrading burden to bear; of reforming the criminal so that we shall not have him to punish. And for your part in all this perpetually recurring, yet always advancing work, I only represent the gratitude of the people when I thank you and wish for you in this conference and in all your endeavors successful and illuminating progress.

It is not for me to make any specific observations, but only to extend to you this general word of greeting. You have come to Massachusetts at the time of her summer glory. Those of you who come from the interior of the country will miss the boundlessness of your prairies and wheat fields; but you will find the cool shadows of woods and hills, and will taste the fresh and salty breath of the sea. And be assured, to whatever she has, whether of natural beauty, of historical associations, or of social science, Massachusetts cordially welcomes you, alike for your own sake and for that of the enlightened and public-spirited constituencies you represent, and especially because you are of those of whom it has been said—blessed is he that considereth the poor.

The President of the Conference, F. B. Sanborn, Esq., of Massachusetts, followed in the usual address, in which leaving the general topics to the treatment of the several committees charged therewith, he considered the subject of "Insanity in its Relations to the State," and the painful fact of its rapid increase, together with some references to pauperism and Public Charities. It was an able and well-digested paper worthy the careful attention of all lovers of humanity.

Our space only permits brief allusion to the sessions of Tuesday and Friday, days specially devoted to questions intimately connected with the work of Charity Organization or Associated Charity Societies.

Tuesday was allotted to the consideration of

CHARITY ORGANIZATION IN CITIES,

the report on the same being presented by Dr. Chas. E. Cadwalader, of Philadelphia, Chairman of the Special Committee on this subject. The report was based upon replies from 16 United States and 9 European Charity Organization Societies to the schedule of queries named upon the

second page of the REGISTER for July. As these replies would fill a score of our pages we cannot give even an intimation of their scope, but must refer to a well-condensed epitome covering two-thirds of a page of the *New York Herald* for July 24th, which paper, with characteristic energy and public spirit, foreseeing the value of such widely-gathered experience to every community, deputed a member of their staff to visit the Chairman in advance of the conference, and to procure the replies and prepare the summary in question. (Copies of *Herald* may be had at the office of the REGISTER.)

The report showed the co-operation of charities that is in progress in a greater or less degree in New Haven, Brooklyn, Newport, Poughkeepsie, Portland, Cleveland, Taunton, Lowell, Indianapolis, Springfield, Cincinnati, Boston, Harrisburg, Buffalo, Detroit and Philadelphia in the United States, and in London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, Birmingham, Southampton, Brighton, Hull and nearly 70 other cities and towns in Great Britain, and that the chief causes of pauperism and crime are intemperance, thriftlessness and indiscriminate almsgiving.

The first division of the general subject which was discussed was that of the

BEST DEVELOPMENT OF THE CENTRAL WORK

of a Society for Organizing Charity, and Robert Treat Paine, Jr., Esq., president of the Boston Associated Charities, gave a very comprehensive account of the workings of the Boston society, dwelling especially upon the benefits of the registration system, and the assistance it had rendered in exposing frauds and doing away with professional pauperism. He reported an effective and increasing co-operation with the public and private charities of Boston, with the marked exception of the Police Department in the matter of dealing with the dram shops, in which it has been impossible to get necessary assistance from them. The Society was also securing a widening and deepening amount of personal devotion on the part of the community. He was followed by

T. Guilford Smith, Esq., Secretary of the Buffalo Charity Organization Society, who gave a rapid and interesting history of the work of the Charity Organization Society in that city, stating, among other things, that they had virtually put an end to all street begging; that where formerly they were infested with beggars from over the Canada border, they were entirely free from that trouble now; and it had all been done by enforcing existing laws, and not by any special legislation. This had been brought about by the accord and co-operation existing among the churches, local charities, and private benevolence, and the leading feature characterizing their work may be said to be the application of business principles to charity.

The second division of the subject was that of the

BEST DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT WORK.

of Societies for Organizing Charities, and Mrs. James T. Fields presented a paper on "The Constitution and Duties of a District Conference." She considered the one indispensable requirement to be that the right persons are selected for administering charity, both as Agents or Superintendents and as Visitors, and that the conference and co-operation between these among themselves, and with the representatives of other charitable and religious bodies, private individuals and all, who in any way should be interested in each case, must be complete and entire. The Committees, Visitors and Officers should act, not from any supposed superior wisdom, but from the power which all persons of average intelligence and warm sympathies are possessed of, to turn quickly when applied to for relief, to discover and weigh the facts kindly and patiently, and to apply from all available resources, the adequate assistance mutually decided upon as the most judicious. Mrs. Fields also referred to the need of industrial training for the young and the necessity of teaching the poor how to become self-supporting. There is such a need of skilled labor in this country, both by men and women, that it will be well remunerated, and whoever knows how to do a thing will have enough of it to do to make a good living.

Levi L. Barbour, Esq., President of the Association of Charities of Detroit, followed with a forcible paper upon the difference between pauperism and poverty, and of the duty of suppressing vagrancy, street begging and mendicancy. The duty of furnishing labor to vagrants, and the virtue of work as a remedy and a help to reformation were ably presented.

Mr. Seth Low, of the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, read an able and interesting paper on "Public Outdoor Relief in the United States." He plainly proved the inherent evil of the system as being the cause of crime and vicious proclivities; and that instead of ameliorating pauperism it increased it, as is sufficiently shown by the statistics of the leading cities. The abolition of such relief in Brooklyn and Philadelphia had caused no distress in either city, and no cause of regret was felt except among those by whom such funds were prostituted to the basest partisan purposes.

We hope to give a full summary of this excellent paper, as well as of Mr. Barbour's, in a later issue of the REGISTER.

Mr. Geo. A. James, of Boston, then gave an interesting account of the Provident Wood Yard in that city, an off-shoot of the Provident Association, started in 1875, not so much for tramps as for resident heads of families who apply for relief when out of work. To each man so applying to the Association is given a card to the Wood Yard entitling him to work at ten cents per hour for at least four hours a day. The enterprise has been entirely successful, the yard is out of debt and has been self-supporting, and is worth now under the hammer \$1500. It has paid for every hour of labor done in it, except that of Mr. James in supervising it. This yard should not be confounded with the Wayfarer's Lodge and Wood Yard, under the care of the city, for strangers and tramps.

In the evening of the same day Mrs. Charles R. Lowell, of the New York State Board of Charities, read a valuable and thoughtful paper on "The Considerations Upon a Better System of Public Charities and Corrections for Cities." Hardly any paper presented to the Conference exceeded this in the attention and interest attracted to it. After a clear presentation of the evils of political influence upon the administration of Public Charities, and of granting public funds for the support of so-called Private Charitable Institutions, she sketched a carefully digested and harmonious plan for dividing the charities of every large city into three departments:—to-wit:

1.—THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN.

This should so deal with little ones entrusted to it as gradually, but surely to cut them off from the influences which made their parents dependent. No child should ever be permitted to associate with paupers or criminals. A Central Temporary Home, to receive children whose cases awaited examination and decision, should be the only institution of this department; from which home they should be transferred as quickly as possible to the private institution, industrial school, or private family selected as most suitable. Attendance on Day Industrial Schools should be made compulsory on all vagrant and truant children.

2.—THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CARE OF PUBLIC DEPENDENTS.

This branch should have charge of the public hospital, insane asylum, alms-house and work-house; this last to receive only those who are able to do some work and are committed as destitute. The one aim should be to cure the individual, whether sick, insane, intemperate, or simply lazy and shiftless; and therefore the strictest discipline should be enforced, absolute cleanliness enforced and industry required, as well for their moral as material effects.

3.—THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE REDUCTION OF CRIME.

This department should have charge of all reformatory institutions of a city, and also the station-houses and the police, the latter being its agents not only to detect but prevent crime, to protect those who cannot resist temptations, to watch habitual criminals when at large, and to guard those serving out sentence. It should also have the entire control of licensing the sales of liquor, and thus keep its hand on the chief cause of crime, as well as upon the victims of the effects of the traffic.

In closing, Mrs. Lowell dwelt briefly on the fact that she had not been speaking of charity, that is, of the duty of each one of us to succor and uphold our weaker fellows, and to give of our abundance, time, thought, work and life to lessen their misery, but of the question how any community may best protect itself from the ravages made upon its resources by pauperism and crime. The two fields are entirely distinct; while official outdoor relief is mischievous, and even ruinous, outdoor relief by private societies and individuals is at present a necessity in almost all our older communities, and will continue to be so until we have become much wiser than we now are.

Friday was allotted to the subject of

"PREVENTIVE WORK AMONG CHILDREN,"

which was to have been presented by ex-Governor John J. Bagley, of Michigan, but news of his sudden death reached the Conference by telegraph the same morning. Hon. W. P. Letchworth, of New York, took his place as chairman for the day. After a report of local work in this direction in Vermont and Illinois, by Mrs. H. M. Beveridge, of the latter State,

Miss Elizabeth C. Putnam, of Boston, gave an instructive account of "THE WORK OF AUXILIARY VISITORS AMONG DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN"—

persons appointed by Massachusetts to visit and care for the "minor wards of the State." There are sixty such, acting under the authority of the State Board of Health Lunacy and Charity, whose traveling expenses only are paid. They report directly to the office of the Board, where all records have been kept for twelve years past.

The child brought to the office, either in person or by letter, is referred to the Visitor of her district, who seeks a place for her as a domestic or

for adoption; visits the family both of the child and of the applicant for it; reports to the Board; keeps herself constantly informed about both; transfers her to another home if there be a disagreement, or to the Industrial School if she proves incorrigible, and perhaps tries her again and again while there is hope of her improvement. The evil-minded and depraved, who have lost all sense of right, and chosen a life of wickedness, never come to the department. There are enough who are in need, and profit by care. The incorrigible are but a small proportion.

The difficulties to contend with, are: *First*: That these children have been transplanted from their natural surroundings. To investigate and decide as to the home for a child is a very serious part of the work; to judge of this the influence upon the child itself must be watched. It may be necessary to move it half a dozen times in order to do it justice.

Secondly: The age is a very difficult one to deal with. The arrests of girls at fourteen is double the number at twelve, while only half as many more are arrested at sixteen. A child is easy to manage; a growing girl puzzles her parents; as she grows into womanhood she questions authority; day dreams begin; these are selfish or generous, according to her nature. Love of dress and of attentions soon follow. These are stubborn and important facts of life.

Thirdly: There is the general spirit of restlessness. At this age girls are often drawn to seek dangerous companions in their restlessness. An exasperated mother complains of her "stubborn child," and commits her to the care of the State to keep her from bad company, and the occasion is one opportunity for turning such girls into the right way. The Church opens the doors to this age in revivals and confirmations. Its power lies chiefly in the fact of *fellowship with its members*. The girl for the first time feels her *individual importance* and that her behavior is a matter of interest to others. Quiet country homes are sought for these wards, but there are some for whom the excitements of the city are more safe than the monotony of a farm. The farmers' daughters seek the city at twenty-one; why should the State expect all its wards to be content to stay? It may be wiser to have them try city life under the Visitors' care.

Fourthly: There is the craving for friendship and for marriage. Visitors are placed "in loco parentis," and do they fulfil their duty if they give them no opportunity for making acquaintances in their own line of life?

Fifthly: There is the prejudice against the "State care." Visitors must study to be the special friend to whom the children may confide all difficulties, rather than be the Officer of the Board. The children must feel that the Visitors will listen to their side of every question, and so make life's burdens easier to bear.

The State Schools shelter those who have proved themselves to be unsafe outside. But these must again come out into the world. If kept "safe" too long they will not be in a condition to resist temptations. There is danger also of evil-minded companions within the school. The young apprentice makes exquisite buttonholes, but knows nothing of the ways of the world. "I did not understand what you were speaking about," answered a girl who had been entrapped by flatteries, to the reproof, "I warned you against these dangers."

Out of more than five hundred girls only sixteen have dropped out of the knowledge of these Visitors in the past twenty months.

Mrs. Susan I. Lesley followed in a paper on "Foundlings," which was in substance the same as kindly prepared by her for our editorial columns, and which appears on our first page.

Much other interesting matter was presented on the subjects of insanity, imbecility and idiocy, immigration, crime and penalties, hospitals, asylums, etc., but for these, as well as all other proceedings of the Conference, we must refer to the forthcoming official report of the Conference.

A most pleasant feature of the occasion was a social reception given on Thursday evening to the delegates at the Hotel Vendome, by Robert Treat Paine, Jr., Esq., President of the Associated Charities of Boston. This was very fully attended, and served to draw the members together in that friendly intercourse for which the business sessions gave little or no opportunity.

Appropriate resolutions of sympathy with President and Mrs. Garfield and their family were also unanimously adopted; and, as suggested by Gov. Long, with special fitness, as the Conference was a representative body, representing a larger portion of the country than any gathering since the assault on the President, and so expressing the intense loyalty and sympathy of the whole country.

Efforts were made to have the next Conference meet in Philadelphia in 1882, but they were not successful, and the body finally adjourned to meet next year in Madison, Wisconsin.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF LONDON.

We have just received the Twelfth Annual Report of this Society, from which we extract the following forcible and clear statement of the grounds for Organized Charity:

ORGANIZATION—TWO METHODS OF CHARITY.

Before dealing, however, with some of the details of the work, the Council desire to restate shortly the meaning and importance of Organization in Charity, what it entails, and with what difficulties it has to contend. Charity organization is a development of the functions of each person or institution engaged in charity, so that they may combine for mutual help and act up to a higher standard. There may be said to be two methods in operation. The one is adopted by those who are content with giving, and are inclined to confound giving with charity, desirous most of all of giving quickly, intent on giving as much as possible, to as many as possible, regardless of quantity rather than of quality, ready to use a few time-honored remedies for the removal of the symptoms of evil, and assured that the thoughts and emotions stirred by the sight of distress are a sufficient pledge of a right judgment in dealing with it. The other is the method of those who count charity, with all its influences and powers, a healing art, based like other arts on knowledge and practice, who require cautious giving, quick or slow, that will produce as its result healthy self-dependence; who are mindful of both quality and quantity, but are not contented with off-hand methods which do not remedy, but only allay, the importunity of distress, and who are anxious to foster better conditions of life which may check and prevent in a succeeding generation some of the glaring evils of this. This is the method of Charity Organization.

THE DIFFERENCE OF THESE METHODS.

The importance of the difference between the two methods is obvious; and if the Charity Organization Society succeeds in its mission, the present generation will, by new experiences, by comparison of opinions and results, by mistakes and difficulties, educate itself year by year towards the higher standard of charity. This method of charity also entails much unselfishness, not entirely absent, but in great part forgotten in the other; comparatively few think it necessary to take up charity work like a learner; many are disinclined to give up separate advantages and to merge them in a combination with others; few are yet convinced that it is best for those they wish to help, that charity should not be made an instrument for the advancement of religious views; few are ready to devote to one or two cases the persistent care frequently required both in learning facts of character, and exerting with this knowledge a patient, healing influence. This "care of the least," which to the individual must often appear to produce no grand result, though it consume much time and energy, is not attractive.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF CHARITY.

There are some inherent difficulties in the Organization of Charity. A person cannot learn the evil he would remove at once by any feeling of the pulse or by auscultation, though his experience, if he has been properly instructed, may teach him much at a single interview; he must in great part rely upon the evidence of others, employ the assistance of others in ascertaining facts, and test the credibility of informants; he must by questions and by this evidence learn how to aid the distressed person, not taking his suggestions merely, but forming his own conclusions; and, after all, he cannot usually prescribe forthwith, but he must seek his remedies in many quarters. Any one charitable person or institution will seldom be able to deal entirely with a case. To meet these difficulties it is obvious that many co-operators are required; that small areas are necessary; that to utilize personal interest and influence as much as possible, to prevent "overlapping" and for other purposes, all should combine so as to form in these small areas thoroughly strong and recognized local centres; that at these local centres there should be an efficient staff of honorary and paid agents to obtain information with the least delay and the greatest accuracy regarding cases of distress, and to arrange the means of helping them. This is the ground work of organization; and these are some of the difficulties with which charity organization has to contend.

The Society's table of cases for the past year shows the following totals:

Dismissed as Not Requiring.....	2,151
" " Undeserving	1,561
" " Ineligible.....	5,657—9,369
Aided through Guardians.....	253
" " Institutions.....	2,298
" " Private persons.....	2,122—4,673

Assisted by Grants.....	3,734
" " Loans	1,044
" " Employment.....	557
" " Hospital Letters, etc.,.....	1,393—6,728
<hr/>	
Total resident cases treated	20,770
Vagrants dealt with, in addition to above,...	11,800
Reports sent out.....	10,292
Investigations made for other Societies, etc.,	9,892
Its contributions were (at \$5 per £ stg.)	
For General Fund.....	24,689.85
" Special Cases.....	4,456.31
" Relief only.....	728.50
" Aid to its District Committees.....	17,712.81—\$47,587.47
The expenses of its Central Office was	
(including cost of the Reporter),...	\$16,140.31

FROM THE
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

CASE READ AT THE WARD VIII CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES
OF BOSTON.

The following case of employment found for a man in need of work will be of interest, now that so much thought is given to Coffee Taverns and kindred plans.

Recently the attention of the Conference was called to a worthy man, formerly an assistant game-keeper in Ireland, who with his wife and two children lately came to this country, and who was greatly in need of employment.

The Conference had been discussing the subject of Coffee Taverns and Coffee Carts, and a Visitor proposed that a small hand-cart be bought and fitted up for the sale of coffee on a small scale, and that the man be employed to peddle the coffee at dinner time in the neighborhood of factories, workshops, and other places where large numbers of work people were employed, with the hope that the hot coffee might in some instances at least take the place of liquor.

The execution of such projects being outside the functions of the Conference, some friends agreed to take charge of it. The plan was tried, but it was soon found best to substitute for the cart something which could be carried in the hand, and accordingly a four-gallon tin can, with an arrangement for a small charcoal fire underneath was bought; and this, with a few cups, and a tin pail with water for washing the cups, was found to be all the outfit needed.

The Oriental Tea Company has been in the habit of selling at their store an excellent cup of hot coffee, with cream and sugar for two cents, and through their kind interest in the plan an arrangement was made, by which this same coffee prepared with cream and sugar was bought from them at a price which, while it paid them, enabled the man to make a profit while selling at the same rate, at which the company sell in their store.

At the outset, and until a certain number of customers was secured, it was found necessary to guarantee the man certain wages, and it was finally arranged that three dollars a week should be assured to him, and that his pay should be increased as the sales increased by his receiving a share of all the profits.

The work does not require the whole of a man's time, for most of the sales are made during the middle of the day, but the results to May 4th, were as follows:

Cost of outfit.....	\$9 03
Charcoal.....	95
Coffee.....	92 49
Wages.....	53 92
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$156 39

The whole of this sum, excepting fourteen dollars and four cents had been paid by receipts from the sales. Beside what appears in this account the man had, by selling simple cakes to be eaten with the coffee, considerably increased his earnings.

When the Conference first learned of this family, they were living in one dark room in the city, but during the spring they moved to three light, airy rooms a little way out of town. The rent of these new rooms was less than half of the room in the city, but they were unfurnished. Money was lent by a friend, and with it the family bought from the outgoing tenant enough furniture to make the rooms comfortable. The whole of this loan was repaid at the rate of one dollar a week, which was deducted from the pay for coffee sales.

The man had shown himself thoroughly honest and thrifty, and in

May the whole business was given into his hands.

Since that time he has bought for himself a new and larger can, with a lamp under it for keeping the coffee hot, and has earned more than a dollar a day. He hopes to extend his business by getting a friend to join in it; and those interested in this little work feel that whether or not the scheme has been of any substantial good in supplying the place of liquor, it has at least been the main support of a very worthy family.

LETTER FROM THE
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.

INVESTIGATION OF THE MARION COUNTY POORHOUSE.

On the 7th of June a meeting of prominent citizens of Indianapolis was called for the purpose of considering certain complaints as to the treatment of the inmates of the Marion County Asylum for the Poor. This institution has a farm of about 220 acres, valued at \$30,000; a building costing nearly \$140,000, and is neither better nor worse than the average "poor house." It is superintended by a man chosen for his ability as a farmer. Its physician lately graduated from the Medical College, and adds to his duties as medical attendant those of steward. Both offices are given as rewards for political service.

For a long time rumors have been abroad with regard to the unkind treatment of the inmates. Complaints were made, again and again, to the Charity Organization Society, of insufficiency of food, of cow-hidings and of imprisonments. But these complaints were too vague to base action upon. Finally the physician shut up in a cell for eleven days an old man, who had been a soldier, who was nearly blind and very weak. Upon his release action was brought in the criminal court, and the physician was convicted of assault and battery, and fined. From this there was no appeal, and to the decision no exceptions were taken. This trial brought forward other evidence as to the peculiar management of the institution. Further testimony was quietly gathered by the Society, affidavits were taken, and the whole was submitted to a meeting of citizens, all of whom were members of the Society.

The evidence was thought sufficient to require a thorough investigation into the management of the Asylum, and into the system. A committee of seven was appointed to wait upon the County Commissioners to present the facts and to ask for an investigation.

This committee presented to the County Commissioners a memorial setting forth that they "are informed and believe that there is now, and for a long time heretofore, has been gross and disgraceful management of the County Asylum, and cruel and criminal treatment of the inmates." They specified particularly beatings, whippings, kickings; failure to provide good and sufficient food; failure to furnish the old, the sick and infirm women with suitable food; neglect in respect to nursing and medical treatment; and confinement of inmates in noisome, dark and underground cells. They asked for a thorough investigation; the suspension of the present officers; the appointment of a competent attorney to conduct the case on the part of the petitioners, and for a stenographer.

The County Commissioners yielded to the petition, though the majority expressed belief in the innocence of the officers, and especially demurred at their suspension. Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks and J. W. Gordon were chosen as attorneys of the Citizens' committee. Attorneys were also appointed for the defense of the officers. The Commissioners sat as a court with the County Attorney as law judge.

The investigation opened on June 13, and closed July 13. In all the court sat seventeen days. It attracted great attention and was reported in full by the papers. From the first it became apparent that any thorough investigation of the management of the institution would involve the conduct of the Commissioners themselves, as well as of the officers. The evils were those incident to a system tolerated by the Commissioners, as well as of specific acts on the part of those in charge. There was thus presented the somewhat unique spectacle of a court sitting in judgment on itself.

The taking of evidence occupied fifteen days. It was shown that there was an average number of 198 inmates, of whom 70 were insane; 25 children; a few idiots; about twenty sick; and the rest, the aged and the ordinary residuum which settles into the poor house. The superintendent, while well enough qualified as a farmer, had had no experience in dealing with broken humanity, and no ideas on the subject. The children were in charge of a woman who had been an inmate of the institution twelve years. No inquiry had been made into her history, or as to her moral or intellectual fitness for such duties. She was there and she was cheap. The idiots ran about the place, frequently frightening the children. The insane women, forty in number, were in charge of one attendant, and such of the other insane as she chose to help her. The

sick were nursed by pauper inmates. The diseased and the whole were mixed together. The innocent and the vicious met together. The worthy poor, pensioners of labor, and the idle were not separated. The physician had had no experience; he was "equal to the average" of the medical students graduated; he had not made the question of insanity a special study, either before or after his appointment. No attempt to introduce the ameliorations now common in all insane asylums had been made. There was no attempt to cure, and no expectation of any cure. The old methods of crib and cell were followed. There was no idea of relief or reformation of any pauper inmate. They were there, and to be fed, and that was all. Why they were there; what their history had been; what causes had operated to produce this condition;—these questions were not asked. No study had been made into social condition. Nor had any thought been given as to the children; what was their antecedent history; "what sorrows with the human born"; what was to prevent their growing up paupers, prostitutes and criminals. It was shown beyond question that the whole management ignored the questions of social science, of reform, of amelioration, of prevention.

It was found further, that confinement in cells for personal reasons, and on hearsay testimony was frequent, both in the case of the sane and the insane. Whippings were also proven in the case of a lad, an idiot and an imbecile girl. Of the charges in the memorial, none save that as to food, were disproven. While the general incompetency of the officers for the peculiar needs of such an institution, and their special unfitness as evidenced by their treatment of inmates was plainly shown.

At the conclusion of the argument the counsel for the citizens made the following request: (1) That a physician, at a good salary, be placed at the head of the institution; (2) That a farmer, steward and matron be appointed under his advice and selection; (3) That the children be placed in a children's home, to be organized under the act passed by the late legislature, which should be both in the nature of a kindergarten and a hospital; (4) That a Board of Visitors of seven persons be appointed from the city and county, who should have continual supervision of the institution, and who should work with the management to make this an asylum for the old, a hospital for the insane, and an honor to the county.

The verdict of the majority of the court was one of complete exoneration of the officers and of the management of the institution. One member dissented. The Commissioners then ordered "that the order suspending the superintendent and physician be revoked, and the care and custody of the institution be transferred to them." A leading journal says: "Thus ends a somewhat-celebrated case in local history. The investigation, although properly conducted in almost every respect, was somewhat of a farce, inasmuch as two members of the Board had from the beginning made no secret of the fact that they did not believe any of the charges preferred."

On the morning following the Citizens' Committee met and drew up exceptions to the finding of the Board, re-stating the evidence and notifying them that the public was not satisfied, but would go on toward a consummation of the reforms asked for. The Committee are thoroughly in earnest and are united. Representing as they do the taxpayers of the county, and the sentiment of the public, they will not drop a matter so important. Their plan of operations is outlined, and the suggestions made will be pressed upon the attention of the Board until the County Asylum is re-organized on a system which reflects the thought and science and Christianity of the nineteenth century.

NOTES.

CHARITY VS. GIFTS.

The giving comforts to those who have striven to lay by money, but have failed from ill-health or misfortune—together with the still more valuable aid which may be given by the instruction and advice of those more educated and enlightened; not only to those in absolute want, but to the industrious and thriving. All these are the duties and pleasures of private charity; but like other duties and pleasures, they ought to be performed and enjoyed with care and thought. We must carefully consider what is the real intention of our charity. Do we seek a pleasant sensation of satisfaction in ourselves? Do we seek the applause of others, or do we seek to do as much good and as little harm to the poor man as possible? But a few years ago it was considered a mark of kindness to give a man as much drink as he wished for, and if he got very drunk the giver merely said, "I'm very sorry for it, but I am such a generous, fine-hearted fellow that I can't bear to refuse a man anything he wants." Such a feeling is not charity, but the very opposite. It is simply self-gratification. The careless giving of drink happily has nearly passed

away. The careless giving of money, I trust, is rapidly lessening. It wants much thought and consideration, much inquiry and careful knowledge of facts to enable us really to decide how to give to the best advantage, and careless giving is likely to do as much harm as heartless withholding. * * * * * But I am told by some that the necessity for so much thought and care in giving away will lessen the amount given, and dry up the springs of charity. Charity is no doubt a great virtue; and anything which would lessen the charity of the world would be much to be deprecated. But what is the charity which is so strongly enjoined? Does it mean giving away six-pences or half-crowns to all who ask for them? Does it mean giving money at all? St. Paul, in his exhortation to the charitable, says: "Though I give all my goods to feed the poor and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." It seems then, that even giving all our goods may be done without real charity, and real charity may be exercised without giving money at all. Charity consists in wishing and endeavoring to do as much good, *real essential good*, to all our neighbors as we can. But if by giving to those who have been careless, who could have made provision for their old age or sickness, we lead others to be careless in the hope of being supported when their old age comes, we may indeed feel a pleasure in thinking that we ourselves are very generous, but it is far from what St. Paul called charity.—*Barwick Baker.*

CASES.

Frequent anonymous letters are received at the Central Office, asking the Society to attend to cases which are reported to be destitute, and while no such call is neglected, or fails to receive our own care in wards where a Branch Association exists, it is desirable that the writer, in every such case, will sign name and residence, that it may be known that the Society is not being trifled with, and that the result of the examination may be reported to the sender for his or her satisfaction. A single instance will show the propriety of this.

Case No. 92, 20th Ward.—J. G.—, of P— St., was reported as a case of "dreadful starvation." Investigation proved that the husband was a good, able-bodied workman, in receipt of high wages, which he spent chiefly at the dram shop, giving but \$1.50 to \$2.00 weekly to his wife for family needs. She requested the saloon-keeper to sell him no more liquor, whereupon he, angered at refusal, beat her, knocking out several teeth. She was, therefore, afraid to take him into court, lest he should again beat her. The neighbors and their grocer smiled incredulously at the statement that the family was starving. Doubtless they have been at times short of food, but could be at all times well supplied if he could be restrained from drinking. What the family needs is friends to hold him to his duty by moral or legal suasion, and to maintain an unflagging watchfulness over him until he is thoroughly reformed. This the Society will do, if not interfered with by injudicious and impulsive alms-givers, who would simply supply more temptation to drink and loosen the man's sense of obligation to his family.

Case No. 93, 15th Ward.—B. M.—, an aged couple, once comfortably well off; lost their property by entering security for a party, who afterward absconded. We endeavored to place them in the Home for Aged Couples, and procured a large subscription for that purpose; but the vacancy was filled by other applicants before the whole amount was secured. A niece in Connecticut was then communicated with, and was induced to take the old couple to her own home. This was a noble act, as the niece supports herself by her own labor. Learning this, some of the subscribers toward placing the parties in the "Home" paid their subscriptions to be used in moving and settling the old people in their new residence, in which they are now safely and comfortably located. Persistent almsgivers may perhaps here distinguish the difference between the real charity of the co-operation, labor and expense bestowed upon this case, and the result to the old couple had they been kept dependent on spasmodic and tantalizing doles.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail
Large 12mo; 468 pages; cloth.....	\$ 1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. AMES. 8vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100.....		
	3 00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.....	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GURTEEN. 12mo; paper; 79 pp..	.25	.27
MANUAL for Visitors, and Classified DIRECTORY to the Charitable Institutions of Phila. 12mo; 217 pp; cloth; [with Chart, if desired]	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8vo. over 300 pp.....	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.....	.60	.65

THE following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by WILL to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 12.
WHOLE NO. 24.

PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1881.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the poor; it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL OCTOBER 15TH.

Monday,	September	26,	8 P. M.,	Board of Directors.*
Monday,	October	3,	8 P. M.,	Assembly.†
Tuesday,	October	4,	3 P. M.,	Women's General Conference.‡
Monday,	October	10,	8 P. M.,	Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†The place of meeting will be advertised in the Ledger.

‡Notice of the place of meeting will be given through the Secretaries of the Ward Corps of Visitors.

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE WARD ASSOCIATIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY

Are appointed by their Constitutions to be held as follows:

WARDS.	WARDS.
1 First Monday in October.	14 Last Tuesday in October.
2 Second Tuesday in October.	15 (Not specified) October.
3 Second Thursday in October.	16 First Monday in October.
4 Second Tuesday in October.	20 First Monday in October.
5 First Monday in October.	22 (Not specified) November.
6 Second Tuesday in October.	23 Second Tuesday in October.
7 Fourth Tuesday in October.	24 Second Tuesday in October.
8 Fourth Tuesday in October.	26 (Not specified) October.
9 Second Tuesday in October.	27 Third Tuesday in October.
10 Second Tuesday in October.	28 (Not reported.)
11 Fourth Monday in October.	29 First Tuesday in October.
12 Fourth Tuesday in October.	30 Second Tuesday in October.
13 Second Tuesday in October.	31 First Monday in October.

TO OUR READERS.

If you are interested in the consideration of matters relating to social and charitable economy, and are not already a subscriber to the MONTHLY REGISTER, please send us your subscription.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can

GET YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

MORTIFICATIONS.

The term "mortifications" is given to many of the Scotch Local Charities, and sounds strangely to American ears in this connection. Thus, in a Hand Book of the Glasgow Charities, just received, we have "*Margaret Bell's Mortification*," "*Gray's Mortification*," "*Thomas Thompson's Mortification*," &c.; and the question has arisen as to the pertinency of the appellation. The term means sums of money left by a deceased party, and invested, and under the control of the Magistrates of the City for the time being, or of the corporations known as the "Merchant's House," or the "Trades' House." The income of these trusts is applied to pensions to such as are deemed necessitous and deserving, but the conditions of some of them are very peculiar.

One gives annuities of £20 each to spinsters over forty years of age, "who have been brought up in the prospect of independence and accustomed to superior society, but who from adversity may have fallen into reduced circumstances."

Another loans £50 each to six merchant burghesses, and £33½ each to six craftsmen burghesses, without interest, but on undoubted security. It also pensions poor burghesses and their families, preference being given to applicants of the name of Baxter, Barr, Wingate, etc.

Another is divided among "faithful domestic servants settled in Glasgow or neighborhood, who have been ten years or more in one situation."

A most praiseworthy one is for the relief of indigent persons afflicted with incurable disease.

The income of "Gibson's Mortification" is "paid to a minister who shall preach, on a Sabbath day in March, a sermon against cruelty to animals." That of "Johnston's," "to five poor journeymen stocking-makers." The income of "Mitchell's" is divided among "four decayed old men, two widows, and two unmarried females of the merchant rank; and three decayed old men, three widows, and one unmarried female of the trades' rank." "Blair's Mortification" assists, among others, "four boys at, or above six years of age, fit to be schooled, and to continue until they be twelve years old, the names of Blair and Gemmil, in their order, having a preference.

BETTER THAN ALMS.

Personal, neighborly intercourse with the poor is the only effective agency for lifting them out of their poverty and degradation and stimulating their self-reliance, and this constitutes the chief feature of our work. Its value is proved in the nearly seven hundred families last year rescued through the labors of our Visitors from lives of chronic pauperism, and started on respectable and self-dependent courses. The Society needs more workers in this department, and desires to enlist the active sympathy of all those who seek to improve the condition of the poor about us, and would urge all who can take part in the work to join some Ward Association, either their own, or one of those in less favored parts of the city, that thus they may be brought into direct contact with the facts of the life of the poor, and with the various existing agencies intended to aid and elevate them.

Those unable to give this personal and systematic service, but wishing to dispense personally of their abundance where they can wisely do so,

are urged to give our Central Office or their Ward Associations permission to refer to them for relief such exceptional cases as, after careful investigation and consideration, shall be decided to be proper subjects for regular neighborly benefactions, coupled with the occasional visitations which would cheer and encourage the one, and gratify and keep operative the charitable instincts of the other.

Those again, unable to exercise even this latter personal supervision, and who still recognize the reformatory aims of the Society as better than the haphazard and insufficient doles of old methods of relief, are invited to contribute of their ability to promote the arduous work undertaken by us. It is a work that has a personal interest for every tax-payer, every parent, every citizen, and each has already reaped material benefit from our two years' labors—labors which it costs money to continue.

THE REGISTER AS A CAMPAIGN DOCUMENT.

Every house in the city, where the REGISTER has a subscriber, contains at least one warm friend of the Ward Association, or one who would contribute all the way from a good word to a part of his or her life to the service of the poor through the methods of our Society. It may be well to throw out again the suggestion to the Ward Directors, and other friends in the localities where any people live who are unacquainted with our purposes, that a special edition or particular issue of the REGISTER, containing an appeal in behalf of the Ward work, could be used effectively instead of a circular. Each copy could be handed personally to one of these unconverted ones, with a request to pass it around. It would be received as a courtesy, and would make at least an impression that would by cumulation some day bring some into the fold of Organization.

BRITISH CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETIES.

In our reference, upon page 5 of the August REGISTER, to the report presented at the Boston National Conference of Charities, etc., by the Committee on Charity Organizations in Cities, we named "nearly 70 other cities and towns in Great Britain," besides the 3 enumerated, as having more or less co-operation among their charities. We find the actual list of towns in the Kingdom having societies in correspondence with the London Charity Organization Society numbers 92, and of these, (including the London Society) 51 are Charity Organization Societies.

THE SOCIETY'S MEETINGS.—The block containing the Central Lecture Hall, corner of 15th and Market streets, where the meetings of the Assembly and of the Women's General Conference have heretofore been held, has been vacated by its former lessee, to whose courtesy and liberality the Society has thus far been indebted for most excellent accommodations for its public gatherings. The premises are now in the possession of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and will shortly be demolished. A special Committee of the Directors is casting about for a suitable place for future meetings, and when a selection is made due notice thereof will be given through the daily papers.

DELEGATES.—The Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity was represented at the American Social Science Association at Saratoga, Sept. 5th to 9th, by Rev. Dr. H. L. Wayland. Mr. Addison B. Burk (Vice-President of the League of Building Associations) also attended by request of the Society, for the purpose of setting forth the Philadelphia methods for providing the poor with good homes at low prices. Dr. Wayland's report will be found in another column.

This Society will be represented at the Annual State Convention of Directors and Guardians of the Poor, at Erie, on the 20th inst., by Josiah R. Sypher, Esq.

THE AMERICAN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

REPORTED FOR THE REGISTER BY REV. DR. H. L. WAYLAND.

The meeting of the American Social Science Association, held at Saratoga, September 5-8, was in many respects of more than usual interest. It is true, many of the subjects connected with Organized Charity have been turned over to the Annual Conference of Charities and Correction. But much still remains lying within the province of Social Science.

The treatment of the Insane, both insane criminals and insane not criminals, also of Inebriates, was pretty fully considered. It was left beyond a doubt (if any existed before,) that regular employment should be provided for all classes of the insane. Employment is a means toward restoration. Insane criminals should be confined by themselves.

It is cruel to subject them to the same regulations as sane criminals. On the other hand, it is cruel to persons of unsound mind, but of refined habits and sensitive disposition, to subject them to association with insane convicts of low character.

Habitual Inebriates should be treated as at once wrong-doers and objects of pity. They should be restrained, not for a few days, or weeks, or even months, but for a long enough period to afford some hope of their reformation. Argument, appeal, even religious appeal, has little or no power over these persons, unless backed up by restraint and the certainty of punishment.

The Treatment of Incipient Insanity outside of Asylums was another topic. It was urged by Dr. Mary Putnam Jacoby that insanity in its beginnings can be advantageously treated in the home rather than in an asylum. The writer confesses that he was not convinced. He is of the opinion that, even though there is some support for the view in theory, yet practically, the opposite view preponderates. How few are the persons who have the mental and moral qualities for such a treatment of the insane! How few the homes where the outward conveniences exist! How few persons, even if qualified, could give the unceasing vigilance needed! The most of us must be bread-earners. It would paralyze the machinery, if the person most competent had to be engrossed with the care of an unhappy being demanding ceaseless care.

On the subject of "The Practice of Medicine by Woman in the United States," Dr. Emily Pope, of Boston, gave some very interesting statistics, gathered with great industry and at no little expense. There are 390 practicing female physicians in twenty-six of the States. The great majority of these are enjoying good health, are gaining a fair maintenance, and are aiding to relieve the ills of humanity. It was gratifying to an emotion of local pride to know that the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia is the largest institution of the kind in the world.

"Homes for the People" occupied most of a session. Mr. Addison B. Burk, who is intimately acquainted with the working of Building Loan Associations, presented a paper upon the City of Homes and its Building Societies. Mr. Burk was present to speak for the Philadelphia system by the special request of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, and through the courtesy and liberality of the *Public Ledger*, of whose editorial staff he is a member. His paper deserved the attention which it received. He exhibited the workings of the Societies, and showed that they are beneficial to the investor, giving him a very good interest for his money, with good security. They are useful to the borrower, for they afford him the means of having a home; and while he has to pay a higher rate of interest than prevails outside, yet he is compelled to pay both interest and principal at regular intervals, and in such sums as not to burden him. He is also secure against sudden foreclosure, as the societies cannot foreclose without six months notice. The societies are a benefit to the community by helping the laboring man to secure a home for himself, thus raising him to a higher level, and giving him a permanent stake in the public welfare. He is no longer a waif, a way-farer.

Mr. Robert Treat Paine, Jr., President of the Associated Charities of Boston, presented in a striking light the benefits of a system of Homes for the people, showing that the character of a man largely takes its color from the home which he occupies. If the home is dirty, ill-ventilated, crowded, the man and his family will sink. He showed how the Philadelphia plan had been modified in Boston, and, as he believed, improved.

A few suggestions and questions occurred to the writer as these valuable papers were read, on which he would gladly have put in a word. Is there any legal requirement limiting the proportion of the value that shall be loaned upon the property? Is there any provision for a regular examination of the affairs of the Society by an expert? Is there any provision in law as to how much a person retiring is entitled to withdraw? All these matters ought to be settled by statute.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

One of the interests of the summer's work has arisen from the petition which was sent by the President of the Associated Charities, and the heads of forty-eight great benevolent societies, to the Police Commissioners of the City of Boston, for a better enforcement of the liquor laws, and a reduction in the number of licenses granted. The Mayor replied by asking for proof that the laws respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors are not enforced.

These laws provide that liquor shall not be sold to children, nor on Sundays, nor after midnight, nor to drunkards. If these limitations should be enforced the evil would be vastly reduced. The experience

and observation of workers among the poor agree in the fact that these limitations are not enforced; that in the streets where the poorer people live children may be seen every day carrying liquor home; that many of the saloons are open on Sundays and after midnight, and that liquor is sold to intoxicated people.

Though we do not recognize the duty of strengthening the statement of so many well-known workers among the poor, a circular was sent to the Conferences requesting Visitors to gather up evidences of the violations of the laws, and the evils growing out of them, especially regarding sales of liquor to children and to intoxicated people.

There are several statutes which bear on our work beside those connected with drunkennes, and the Central Committee have printed two of them on a leaf for the use of Visitors; one on "Rogues, Vagabonds, Idlers," etc., and the other on "Vagrants." "The Directory of Charities" gives information about such others as are likely to be useful.

As doing good is more satisfactory than preventing evil, we turn with relief to another feature of the summer, the "Vacation Schools," which, though not the work of our organization, are a blessing which we gratefully recognize. Last year, when the time came for the summer vacation, one of the teachers in a large public school, in one of the poorer parts of the town, could not make up her mind to leave her pupils, to take her much needed holiday and rest. She felt that the long vacation was an injury to the children in two ways; first, that they lost all their habits of industry and application, so that many weeks of the autumn work were wasted in bringing them back to habits of study again. But second, and more serious, that the idle street life, with few, or no innocent pleasures, exposed them to many temptations.

There was a doubt whether the children would come regularly to school when not required to do so by law; but she resolved to try the experiment, making the work lighter and more entertaining than the school routine. She gave her own time without any compensation; the school committee gladly permitted the use of the school room, and one or two people interested in her plan gave a sum of money for the purchase of dissected maps, drawing materials, etc.

The result was a success beyond her hopes; the children came gladly, the parents were full of gratitude, and the improvement in the scholars was marked. This year she has continued her own work, and has the reward of seeing two new schools following in her footsteps. One of these is at the North End, and some of our Visitors in that ward have been much interested in it. Money enough has been raised for it to pay a moderate salary to a superintendent and several teachers. They have also some volunteer help. They have an average of 80 scholars, and the children are already begging that it may be repeated next year.

The other is at Jamaica Plain; its work is described as "fun with a purpose." There are three sections—a school of carpentry for boys, a school of sewing, and one of household work, taught with toy furnishings. The teaching in the use of carpenter's tools is given by an instructor from the Institute of Technology, who has three classes of boys each day, and gives two hours to each class. This school is under the direction of the trustees of an old fund of \$100,000, given in part as early as 1690 for educational purposes, the income of which they now propose to spend in useful industrial education. Their experiments will, therefore, be watched with great interest.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

At the outset of our efforts to diminish, and if possible to root out pauperism, we were careful to include, as far as possible, the element of labor of some kind for every able-bodied poor person applying for aid.

Our first experiment in this direction was in dealing with the "tramps." At the time of our organization (June 1, 1878,) there were hundreds of these individuals in and about our city, all of whom were in one way or another living upon the citizens, and without any other "visible means of support." At some houses it was no uncommon thing to receive in a single day calls from fifteen or twenty able-bodied men of this class. Every one wanted food, clothing or money to pay for lodging, one or all. Some claimed to be willing to work, but as there was little or no probability of householders having either work for them to do, or being willing to trust them about the premises if they had, there was no way of distinguishing tramps from needy and honest working men out of employment. A genuine tramp will never work if he can help it. A genuine working-man is always willing to take any work that is offered him, and do the best he can at it. So much for theory; now as to practical results.

Our Executive Committee secured with the building containing our central office, kitchen, lodging house, etc., enough ground for a Wood

yard. Sheds were erected, wood purchased, saws, saw-horses and axes provided, and a reliable man put in charge of all. At the same time notice was given through the daily papers requesting citizens to give no aid to unknown persons at their houses or stores, but to send all such to our central office, where all who are willing to work would be provided with meals and lodgings. Our plan was fully explained, and the only help asked for from the citizens was that they should give us their orders for kindling wood. Office cards were also freely distributed to householders and offices, to be given to tramps instead of money, food or clothing.

Anticipating an effort by the tramps to prove our plan a failure by descending on us in such numbers for a day or two as to be able to say that we could not provide for them; we secured an empty factory near by, with room for lodging at least two hundred men. Bunks were fitted up and the room made comfortable with tables, chairs, washing arrangements, etc. Soon they came from all quarters of the city; often forty or fifty in a day, saying they were sent to get their meals and lodgings. All were treated kindly, our method explained to them, and their work shown them; but the sight of our large wood piles was too much for about four out of every five who applied (many, of course, never applied at all), and they would leave at once. As to the rest, the only way to reach the dining room and the lodging room being through the wood yard, about half of those who at first thought they would try working for a living again would generally give it up before the first half day was over, and decide to follow the main army on its march out of New Haven. This left us the very ones we really wanted to find and have remain, viz.: *honest working men out of employment*. These we were glad to help to better work as soon as possible, some being sent to farms in the country; others provided with permanent places in the city, and others, after a few days of faithful work being given transportation to other cities where they could obtain their accustomed work.

The plan was a complete success, and without half the trouble anticipated and prepared for. The largest number of lodgers at any one time was twenty-three. The daily average for the first year was twelve in winter and six in summer; for the second year still less, and for our third year (just ended) not more than half as many as the past year, and yet no one was ever refused meals and lodgings in return for work. By persuading the City officials also to compel wood sawing in return for lodging at the police station, where men of this class had been allowed to remain two nights without arrest as vagrants, we closed all avenues to a livelihood for tramps at New Haven except by working like other people. The result was their almost total disappearance from "our coasts" long before the State Tramp Law was even proposed.

Driven from New Haven the tramps infested other towns, and these adopting similar measures, they began to forage on the country until the country members of the Legislature awoke to the existence of the "tramp nuisance"; and thus the Tramp Law was made possible, and enacted, and enforced throughout the State. Other communities, still suffering from this form of pauperism, can at least try this or some better remedy. Of course local difficulties will arise, but these can be overcome by a determined effort.

A more lasting and difficult work is in dealing with our own town poor, but this subject will be considered next time.

LONDON CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The reply of the London Society to the schedule of interrogatories of the "Committee on Organization of Charities in Cities" of the National Conference of Charities, was unavoidably delayed by the occurrence of its annual meeting, and it was therefore excluded from the Committee's report at Boston. At the special request of the Committee, and in view of much valuable information it embodies which cannot fail to be of practical benefit to the movement in the United States, we present the reply in full.

1.—Name and Address of Society.

Society for Organizing Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy (Charity Organization Society) 15 Buckingham Street, London, W. C.

2.—Date of Organization.

Established in 1869, and extended over the Metropolis by degrees between that date and 1875, when a separate Committee was formed for each of the East End Unions. Further sub-divisions and extensions of district organizations will probably have still to be made. Some are now under contemplation.

3.—What is the Character of the Central Body?

The Council consists of (1) a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurers; (2) two annually elected Representatives from each District Com-

mittee, together with a Chairman and Honorary Secretaries of Committees not exceeding two; (3) Additional Members, in number not exceeding one-fourth of the Representatives of the District Committees; (4) Representatives of the Metropolitan Charitable Institutions. Vice Presidents of the Society are Honorary Members of the Council. There are, at present, representatives of Four Metropolitan Charities on the Council.

The Council supervises and endeavors to strengthen and consolidate the work of the District Committees. It takes into consideration all questions of principle and matters relating to the working of the Society generally. It endeavors to bring into systematic co-operation the larger Metropolitan Institutions and Societies, to improve the administration of Charity, and to suppress imposture.

For executive purposes there is the Administrative Committee of the Council. It is elected annually by the Council, and consist of not more than twenty members, of whom fifteen are elective and five co-operative. The Treasurers of the Council are *ex officio* members of this Committee.

There are also permanent sub-Committees of the Administrative Committee—the sub-Committee on District work, and the Inquiry sub-Committee. Each of these undertakes a special department of the work of the Council. Members of District Committees, not being members of Council, may be members of the sub-Committees. Besides these Committees there are other special Committees for particular subjects, *e. g.*: Convalescent Homes: Poor Law out relief: Homes for Girls: Homes for Boys, etc., etc., as may from time to time appear necessary. These Committees are formed, not only of members of Council, but of any persons having special information or interest in the subject under consideration.

4.—*What is the Character of its District Associations?*

The District Committees consist, as far as possible, of Ministers of Religion, Guardians of the Poor, and Representatives of all the principal Local Charities. Each Committee has a Chairman, or President, one or more Honorary Secretaries, and one or more Representatives at the Council. It is the function of the District Committees to receive, investigate, and deal, in accordance with the general principles of the Society, with all cases of alleged want or distress referred to them. Each Committee is intended to form a common meeting place and centre of information on charitable work, for persons in the district desirous of benefiting the poor (see Annual Report, p. 11.) There is at present a District Committee for each Poor Law Union, and in some cases in which the unions are very large, there are two or more Committees. There are in all thirty-eight Committees. At present the population in each union varies from about 60,000 to 200,000.

5.—(1) *What is the Population of the City or Town?*

About four millions.

(2) *The Membership of your Society?*

(Not given.)

(3) *The Number of its Workers and Visitors?*

There are on the District Committees of the Society about 1,400 persons. Many of these persons attend the Committees but seldom; many of them, however, use the Society in connection with their parishes and private work, though they do not attend often. Again, many persons are using the Society and co-operating with it, whose names do not appear as members of Committees.

There is no system of Visitors in connection with the Committees, though the Visitors attached to the parishes are sometimes members of Committees and visit the cases. In some instances, also, members of Committees, though not parochial visitors, undertake the work of visiting cases. In many parts of London the clergymen have their own Visitors; and the clergyman or his Visitor is applied to in reference to every case dealt with by the Society.

(4) *What Constitutes Membership?*

Any person being a member of a District Committee, or being an Annual Subscriber of not less than £1, 1, 0, or a Donor of not less than £10, 10, 0, to the Funds of the Council, or of any District Committee shall be a member of the Society. (See rule 3, p. 42, Annual Report.

6.—*To What Extent Has Co-Operation Been Effected?*

1.—*With Societies?*—The Society in one way or another is co-operating to a certain extent with a very large number of the Charities of London in connection with cases of distress, *i. e.*: When the case has to be assisted by the Committee, application is made, and, when possible, assistance obtained from one of the Charities which profess to give the sort of relief required. On the other hand, a large number of Charities,

managed on the voting principle, are by their restrictions out of the pale of co-operation with the Society; for it is easier to deal with the case, *e. g.*: of a boy requiring admission to a Home by arranging the payment for the case through a combination of private individuals than by undertaking to canvass on its behalf at the cost of considerable labor, at some expense, and with a possible failure to gain admission.

A large amount of charitable money in London is held by Trustees as endowments, and by City Companies. The restrictions on administration are very numerous, *e. g.*: applicants must be freemen of a Company, or must have paid rates in a certain district, etc., etc. And the disposal of the funds are in the hands of a few persons often little known, while the Charities themselves also are hardly known to the general public. It is obvious, therefore, that there must be many difficulties in extending co-operation with these Charities. Some of the larger Metropolitan Charities co-operate readily with the Society, *e. g.*: The Society for the Relief of Distress, and the Jewish Board of Guardians. A plan of co-operation with the large London hospitals for obtaining through the Society, convalescent accommodations for their out patients will probably lead to much further inter-action between this class of Charities and the Charity Organization Society.

2.—*With Churches or Religious Bodies.*—A few clergymen in London use the District Committees for investigation in all their cases in connection with their local parochial Relief Committee. They are inclined to use the local Committees from time to time as a relief agency for cases which require assistance of an amount or kind out of their reach; or for dealing with cases, which after having received casual help for a considerable time appear to be hopeless; or for the investigation and treatment of cases of apparent imposture.

There is thus a tendency to use the District Committees of the Society for the more difficult cases, while the clergy and ministers continue to relieve, in a casual manner, from whatever funds they may have at their disposal, casual want. A large mass of chronic distress is by these means alleviated but not remedied, and want of co-operation, and neglect to obtain sufficient information prior to giving assistance, coupled with frequent doles, lead to the creation of much needless misery. Co-operation implies a certain sacrifice of separate interests for a common end, and until the idea is more generally accepted that Charity is to be used carefully as a curative method, the advantages of co-operation will not be realized, the substitution of a better system of relief for that generally now in vogue must be gradual. There is, however, a distinct change for the better in the co-operation of the clergy and ministers of religion with the Society and the manner in which they regard its aims. The co-operation with the clergy of the Established Church who have a recognized local parochial system, is necessarily more complete than with the ministers of other denominations, a few of whom, however, act cordially with the Society. In a time of pressure like that of last winter, when large sums of money were placed at the disposal of the clergy, and a great deal was distributed at once, and without reference to the Society, in a spirit of panic, much harm may be done to the people. This was the case, then, but the evil results have in some instances, been so manifest that it is likely that in some districts a better plan of co-operation will be possible in the future. Methods of co-operation in the coming winter are now about to be considered.

3.—*With Public Departments?*—The Society makes inquiries on behalf of the Admiralty, and on behalf of the Royal Bounty Fund into cases which it is proposed to assist from the funds at the disposal of these offices. With the Police the Council are frequently in communication, it being their endeavor to throw upon them the ultimate investigation of fraudulent cases, and the prosecution of them when desirable. Full particulars with regard to co-operation with the Guardians will be found in our pamphlet, on this subject. This co-operation is of the most important character, for so long as there is any form of widespread indiscriminate out-door relief, the organization of charity is impossible. The poor who obtain this relief in spite of vicious lives and immorality, have no object in remaining self-dependent and avoiding the receipt of Poor Law relief. From time to time the local Committees also come into contact and co-operate with the Sanitary authorities, should it be necessary to draw the attention of the Sanitary Inspector to houses unfit for habitation, or for other reasons.

And What Success is Anticipated in these Directions?—Judging from the past, there is good reason to believe that the ideas which this Society has to promulgate are making way, and that with the spread of these ideas the co-operation with the various bodies referred to above will continually increase. The formation of smaller areas for the District Committees will strengthen this tendency, and will make it possible to carry out the work of the Society with greater attention to detail and more personal care. A large number of the younger generation are in

teresting themselves in the Society, and making themselves acquainted with its principles and work. Gradually persons of more leisure and greater aptitude for charitable work are being elected on the Boards of Charities themselves, though the work still to be accomplished in this direction is enormous, and there are undoubtedly great difficulties to be contended with. Notwithstanding sectarianism, and the separation of the masses of the poor from the rich, and the conservative and separatist character of many institutions, there is good reason to believe that the people are gradually being leavened by new ideas concerning Charity and charitable work.

7.—(1) *Does the Society furnish Relief from its own Resources, or depend exclusively upon other Societies to furnish it? and what course is deemed most advisable in this respect?*

The Society furnishes relief from its own resources as a last resort, and this course is deemed best because: (1) It avoids hardships: the relief functions of relief societies, many of which do not relieve adequately, and will not, probably, relieve adequately for some time to come, are thus supplemented; and (2) this principle supplies a lever for organization. For if the Society were to relieve from its own funds primarily it would not be brought into contact to the same extent with other Relief Societies, and there would be only a continuous encroachment on its funds for relief purposes, so that its income for organization (its primary work) would be lessened; and further, the tendency of a Society which relies upon itself for relief, and has numerous claimants, is to give to each claimant as much as can be spared, thus probably giving to none, or to few, a sufficient amount. Whereas, if the Society adopts without scruple the principle of adequate relief, and relies upon the charity of the community at large for assistance according to the needs of each case of distress to be dealt with, instead of according to the means of its own annual income, it works upon a system which obliges it to face the real difficulties of the problem, and which may lead to the creation of a high standard in charitable work on the part, both of those who assist with their money and of those who should assist with their time. At present the Society must do a large amount of relief work, but its endeavor is to be the organizing agency for the relief of others. The cost of organization ought thus rightly to be considered a management charge on the relief to be disbursed by many institutions and many private individuals. A Relief Society is not likely to be an effective organizer of Charity.

It is fair to say that this question of the relation of relief to Charity Organization is one of which most diverse views are held, as can be seen by a reference to the file of the *Charity Organization Reporter*.

(2) *What ground for apprehension may there be that the sources of Relief through Co-Operating Societies alone, may not, at all times be adequate or to be depended upon?*

If the Charity Organization Society does not make itself responsible for obtaining relief, it is obvious that there is great ground for apprehension that the required assistance will not be forthcoming from Co-operating Societies. Few general Relief Societies relieve adequately, and few cases can be relieved adequately by a reference to one Society. Under existing circumstances, therefore, unless the Charity Organization Society makes itself responsible for relief great hardships would arise. The District Committees of the Society in London are required by the resolution of Council to send up to it the papers of any case with they consider they are unable to relieve adequately. These cases are treated as "special"; and private persons combine to give them the assistance required, even if it amount to £200 or £300. Every case so referred has been adequately assisted, and though it entails some trouble, it is likely that if charitable persons spare no effort to get the necessary relief, the money required will be forthcoming. If it is not money only that is wanted, but other forms of assistance, these can be arranged for combination and care. The money distributed in inadequate relief in all quarters is amply sufficient to meet all legitimate needs were it properly used and husbanded.

8.—*What provisions have been made for giving or procuring employment? and what would you advocate in this direction?*

No especial provisions have been made by this Society for giving or procuring employment. Advertisements are frequently inserted in the best papers according to the nature of the employment required by the applicant. Help is often given on condition that the applicant obtains employment. Assistance is frequently given to girls to enable them to take a situation; and through a close co-operation with the Society for Befriending Young Servants very much has been done in this direction. It is generally considered that the poor are better able to

find employment for themselves than persons in another class, not so well acquainted with the wants and demands of the labor market in any particular line, are able to find it for them. Employment registers are kept at several of the offices, and whenever members hear that employment, such as an applicant requires, is available, it is notified to him. But not much is done in this direction, except in the cases of charwomen and the rougher forms of labor. It has been feared that by taking the work of a Servant's Registry, the District Committees would direct to charitable agencies persons who ought to look for employment in the ordinary channels of labor; and employment given out of charity has a tendency to divert people from the real labor market to a fancy labor market in which unmarketable work is paid for at fancy prices.

With regard to the large portion of low paid laborers, *e. g.*: Dock laborers, etc., the problem is one of extreme difficulty, owing to the want of trade organization in the classes themselves, and to the careless lives which these people live. The intermittent character of the labor is also probably a distinct cause of pauperism. The Guardians have power to open stoneyards for such persons in time of pressure; and it has been thought well to throw this work entirely upon the Guardians. District Committees are always ready to inquire into cases which find a temporary shelter in the work-house or refuge, but they have, in no instance, themselves given employment.

9.—*What success has been obtained in suppressing street beggars and mendicancy? and through what methods? and what better means could be suggested?*

A great success has been obtained in suppressing street beggars and mendicancy. In the beginning of the Charity Organization movement the ticket system was found most useful. Cautions were posted up in many places and the attention of the Police was drawn to the matter. This is now frequently done whenever there seems to be an increase of mendicancy in any particular quarter.

If the question of vagrancy rather than mendicancy is included in the above question, it should be added that the tendency of opinion on that subject appears to be, to require a vagrant to be confined for a longer time in the work-house than is now possible, and to endeavor to put him to such work as will lead, if possible, to his being reclaimed from a vagrant life. The "Dorsetshire" system, sketched in the *Reporter*, has obvious advantages. It complies with the popular feeling, and at the same time prevents vagrants hanging about a house, or expecting to receive money. Charity pays their traveling expenses at the least possible cost and removes opportunities for mischief. Such a plan, however, is rather palliative than remedial. The system of longer detentions would probably act as a deterrent, though it might entail considerable expense.

10.—*What do you consider to be the chief causes of Pauperism and Crime in your town? and how far may these conditions be chargeable to Indiscriminate Charity and Intemperance? What percentage do you attribute to the latter clause?*

The chief causes of pauperism and crime are largely due to the struggle for wealth, combined with the oppression of the poor incident to the struggle; to the vices of the rich; and to the intemperance of the poor. Pauperism has been defined by Carlyle as "social sin made manifest," and the definition indicates the cause. No percentages are available to show how far these evils are chargeable to indiscriminate charity or to intemperance. The poor in the neighborhood of the rich are generally demoralized by their selfish Charity. Where they are left to themselves they frequently are more industrious and self-dependent. It is fair, however, to say, that public opinion is altering in this respect, and that much more attention is paid by the rich to the duties of Charity; though no such duties can be a substitute for the Charity which forms a natural part of the duties of life which ordinary business relations entail.

11.—*What is your system of registration? How far is it complied with by Societies and individuals? and what value do you place upon it?*

There is at the office of the Council a registration of special cases of imposture, etc. There is in each district a registration of all the cases the Committee deals with. Such a registration is, so far as it goes, essential; but it ought to be extended further, so that, if possible, there should be one register of all the cases known to the Society. This would effectually prevent overlapping, and a reference to it by any Charity would give all necessary information. The system of the registration of cases assisted by Charities, and cases assisted by charitable individuals, at a Central registration office, is good for the prevention of overlapping, but

the great object of Charity Organization is to secure this end by a combination of the charities and charitable individuals themselves. All cases, therefore, registered at a Charity Organization Committee, ought to be cases which have been thoroughly dealt with; or which, as being suitable for the Poor Law, Charity should not treat. The registration of the successive acts of Charity done by institutions or individuals to an applicant, ought thus to be unnecessary, for it would be a chronicle of a series of acts of inadequate relief; and the object of the Society is the extinction of such relief. It must be allowed, however, that owing to want of co-operation, there is probably a good deal of overlapping in London; but it is a question whether the remedy for this would lie in urging registration upon each Charity and charitable person, rather than in endeavoring to impress on them the absolute necessity of adequate assistance.

12.—*What ameliorating effects on Pauperism and Crime have been produced in the Town since the existence of your Society?*

Those who know London now and what it was in 1869 trace a great improvement, especially in the poorer parts. The rush of applicants for relief is not so great, even at times of distress; nor are the appeals of the clergy on behalf of poor districts so numerous and sensational. Wherever the Guardians co-operate closely with the District Committees, the improvement is most marked. A statement of the pauperism in the years 1869, 1875 and 1879 shows a marked change for the better in some Unions, for instance:

Number of Paupers on the last day of Christmas quarter—			
	1869.	1875.	1879.
Kensington,.....	5049	1974	1766
St. George's (Hanover Square),	2622	3801	3470
St. Marylebone,.....	6515	4763	4779
St. George-in-the-East,.....	4346	1450	1482
Whitechapel,.....	4214	1452	1463
Stepney,.....	3543	1077	1241
Total,.....	26,289	14,517	14,181

13.—*What new or additional agencies have been introduced, or their introduction caused by your Society either Provident, Preventive or Remedial?*

Several Provident Dispensaries have been established in London in connection with the Society. Many also have been established in the Provinces. To continue and carry on this work a Metropolitan Provident Medical Association has been established, now entirely independent of the Society. The Society has not directly undertaken the establishment of any preventive or remedial institutions. Hitherto its main work has been the organization of existing institutions in reference to individual cases of distress.

14.—*What attention has been given in the care of the Children of the Poor, either Custodial, Sanitary or Educational, and what relative importance do you place upon this branch of your work?*

As yet no attention has been given to this question by the Society. It has aimed, rather, at collecting and centralizing information, than establishing Societies. The question is one of very great importance. A meeting was recently convened by the Council to consider it, and it is likely that a Committee will report on the subject and endeavor to work reforms in several important particulars in the course of the next year.

15.—(a.) *In the Central Body or Council of your Society what powers of administration are entrusted to it?* (b.) *Has it different Committees engaged in the questions of charitable economy, and if so, name them?* (c.) *Are there stated Conferences of all the workers in the Society for the discussion of such questions, and are other persons invited to attend?*

(a.) See above, question 3.

(b.) Regarding the second point in the question, it has at present a permanent Committee on Convalescent Institutions; it has had a Committee on Provident Medical Relief and Reform of the out-patient Department of Hospitals. Out of this Committee has grown the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association. It has had Committees on the Care of Idiots and Imbeciles and Harmless Lunatics; on the Care and Education of the Blind; on Employment; on Soup Kitchens and Refuges. It has now a Committee on the Dwellings of the Poor. (A full list of its reports, etc., will be found at the end of the Society's last Annual Report.)

(c.) From time to time special meetings of the Council to consider and discuss special questions, are held and outsiders are invited to these meetings. Such questions are also discussed at the weekly meetings of the Council. Conferences are held from time to time as occasion arises.

16.—*In the Branch or District Associations;*

(1) *Have you, in all cases, paid agents in charge of the office?*

Yes, in all cases, under the Honorary Secretary who is responsible for the work of the office.

(2) *Are there volunteer visitors men and women, and if so, what are the relative functions between the Agent and Visitors in the investigation or care of cases?*

Sometimes there are as above stated, volunteer visitors, especially when the clergy have none, or only a few visitors themselves. The business of the agent is to investigate the cases of distress. The business of the Committee and the Visitors would be to decide upon the case, and in some instances to visit it before and after decision.

(3) *Have you weekly Conferences of all your workers to consider special cases for relief, or do you employ Committees, or any other means for this purpose?*

Yes; all Committees have weekly meetings, sometimes twice, or thrice a week. The chief business of these meetings is to decide upon the cases. The Honorary Secretary and the Agent have powers for dealing with cases of emergency. The arrangements with regard to cases requiring special relief have been above referred to.

16.—(4) *What other features in the administration or work of any of your District Associations are of peculiar or of special interest?*

18.—*In general terms, what might be said to characterize your Society, or to be its distinguishing features from other Societies in Organizing Charity.*

These two questions may, perhaps, be better answered together, though it is difficult to know to what points especially to refer. What strikes me as the most important characteristic of our Society, is the adoption of the principles of investigation in every case with the view, not to suppressing imposture merely, but to find out how an applicant can best be assisted. This necessitates the employment of better men, and of careful and detailed machinery of a high class character. It involves training and education, and puts the work of Charity, generally speaking, in a new light. There is no doubt that the first idea of investigation grew out of the suppression of mendicancy, and that it is only of late that it has been thought possible to use investigation as a method of diagnosis, rather than of checking imposture.

(2.) The next characteristic of importance is adequate relief. It is the correlative of adequate investigation. The ordinary work of charitable institutions is remarkable for no deficiency so much as for the general inadequacy of their methods of assistance. The family is not treated as a whole, nor are efforts made to overcome the great obstacles in the way of doing permanent benefit to the applicant.

(3.) Giving relief only in the last resort is the principle which this Society has adhered to more closely than most Charitable Societies. Its importance is already referred to.

(4.) The institution of a Central Council representing the District Committees is of very great importance. It allows questions of common interest to be discussed without reference to local prejudices, and yet, with a due consideration of local needs. It allows of issues being submitted to the common body of the Society which are likely to be overlooked in the routine of daily local work, and it thus makes it possible by a continuous growth of opinion in the Society, to perfect the standard of work which its members are aiming at. There is no doubt a tendency to friction between the various bodies of a decentralized association, but this is more than compensated for by the safety-valve which the central representative body affords for the expression of any opinions or feelings which may be working in the Society. Another difficulty which should not be overlooked, is that many of the best local workers have the least time available for taking part in debates in a central body. It is well, however, that they should be able to meet together on an important occasion, even if their Committee is not usually so well represented. An independent central body is one of the main differences between the Charity Organization Society in London, and the Charity Organization Societies throughout England. In most places there is but one office, and that office is engaged mainly in doing district or case work.

19.—*What was the entire cost of*

1.—*Administration of your Society for the last year (exclusive of relief.)?*

2.—*Of the Central Office?*

3.—*The average cost of administration of a District Association (exclusive of relief.)?*

The cost of the offices of the Council in the year 1880 was £3206.0.6. The particulars may be seen in the Balance Sheet attached to the Report

enclosed. The cost of the administration of the thirty-eight District Committees, in the years 1879-80 was £8,005.16.9. The particulars may be seen in the accompanying Annual Reports of these Committees. The average cost per District Committee, exclusive of Relief was £210.3.7. Full particulars will be found on this and other points, in the papers which accompany this letter.

[N. B.—The pamphlets and reports referred to in the foregoing are filed in the office of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, and may be seen by those desiring it.]

ABSTRACT OF PAPER ON PAUPERISM AND VAGRANCY.

By LEVI L. BARBOUR, of Detroit; read at the Annual Conference of Charities held in Boston, July 26, 1881.

Vagrancy is the tap-root of pauperism, and it is to be cut through only by organization. The vagrant is a pirate upon charity. An idle wanderer with no trade, no business, no aim in life, but to satisfy temporary wants, he does nothing, and he wants to do nothing. He preys upon the public by begging letters and by personal appeals. He sends his dirty, half-naked children from door to door to get the refuse of the kitchens. Blindness, a goitre, a deformity, a broken limb—these are his stock in trade upon which he will do a thriving business. Calamities are blessings to be utilized by an energetic display of them.

The belief that begging gives an easier and surer living than thrift and industry is a chief cause of vagrancy; and its too frequent success forms one of the greatest difficulties in endeavors to suppress it. Kind-hearted, gushing people, easily imposed upon, are so numerous that large colonies of beggars are enabled to live by them in ever city. They multiply at the expense of these. Mendicancy "pays" in a certain sense. A sturdy beggar, watched by a detective, collected two dollars and a half in a couple of hours in Detroit. His business paid twice over the wages of honest toil for a whole day, and that in two hours only!

While occasionally lessened demand for labor leads to discouragement and indolence, it is much more often true that indisposition to adapt oneself to steady labor causes the vice. Disregard of thrift is another prominent cause of vagrancy. The text, "take no thought for the morrow" is misapplied. It is thought to be "stingy" to save, and "mean" to economize and "foolish" to lay up for a rainy day. A fortune would be misfortune for those who entertain such ideas and habits.

Intemperance is the most potent of all causes, and the almost insurmountable obstacle to reform. It is met at every step of our investigations. A large part of all that is given in Charity is spent in "drink," which imparts no muscular power, nor any will-force, but weakens both mind and body. It makes street loungers of former workers, and victims to bad passions of those who were strong in self-control. From schools, libraries and churches, it is but a step to the almshouse, the asylum or the prison, when intemperance leads the way.

A life of crime is attractive, compared with the filthy, bestial career of the wretched vagrant. What a life! to filch each mouthful from some stranger's hand by a whining lie! To clothe oneself through crawling servility! To obtain by cowardly cringing what could be had as readily as the air he breathes, had he the least leaven of manhood! Can there be a greater satire upon civilization than such a wretch! Such a poor, miserable specimen of quasi-humanity!

Yet we must remember that these are souls! That they produce other souls with fearful rapidity! What can be done for them? How can they be turned to industry, thrift, cleanliness and prosperity?

First.—By furnishing them with labor and compelling them to work. This is one of the chief aims of Charity Organization Societies. Their most efficient work has been done through Employment Committees at their Central District Offices.

It is the part of this committee to find employment sufficient for the necessities of life through their acquaintance with employers of unskilled labor. It is of vital importance that its chairman be active, energetic, conscientious, and a judge of human nature; and that he be able to determine what each applicant can do, and firm in requiring him to do it. Many a tough customer will try his patience by refusing the employment, feigning illness and resorting to all sorts of dodges to avoid work. Some will try to demonstrate their inability to work and so seek to be left to collect the living which they insist that the world owes them.

When an applicant loses the situation obtained for him the cause should be investigated; the dispensers of relief notified if it be through his own fault, and he be provided again with work as soon as possible. If illness be the cause, his place should be retained through a temporary substitute. Provision for employment on recovery is a relief from anx-

iety and an aid to prompt recovery, for a man with a family dependent upon him. Even the lame and the blind can be rendered self-supporting. No case under any circumstances should be abandoned. The vicious, though desiring to be let alone, must be followed up, and the dejected require continued advice and encouragement.

Second.—The greatest unkindness, both to the community and to the chronic beggar is to give anything else than work. Permanent relief is what he needs, and that is only to be found in steady employment.

Out-door relief, as usually dispensed through official sources, is but an encouragement and inducement to vagrancy. No public relief of this character should be given except to bury the dead, feed and cure the sick, and to supply temporarily the necessities of life in cases of desertion, or when the friends cannot be reached. When out-door relief goes further than this it creates pauperism. Public Out-door Relief is too frequently used for political purposes; it provides funds and offices for distribution by the "rings."

Many deem these restrictions harsh. They think it queer to search a man's pocket before filling his stomach. Their hearts get the better of their heads; their sympathies run away with their judgment; they are often terribly imposed upon. Careful investigation into every case by a society, and prompt exposure of frauds will do much to end deliberate imposture, and to encourage the worthy to believe that they will receive proper attention, and will not be classed with impostors.

Third.—There are no forms of street begging so difficult to treat as those that claim they have "nothing to eat" and "no place to sleep." These are generally mere pretences. But pity is always a powerful advocate for the pretender, and he knows that few will take the risk of denying a real sufferer, and that fewer yet will take the time or trouble to investigate his story.

How can this class be met, and busy men and sympathetic women be relieved from the pressure of this dilemma, and not do violence to their sense of humanity, or encourage the vicious habits of tramps and vagrants?

In the Detroit Society the rules are—1, no money; 2, prompt relief to the really needy; 3, investigation and registration.

1. The applicant is given a ticket and told to present it at a District office of the Society. If money is his object he will disregard the ticket and try the next house. If all are firm he is baffled. If really in need he will present his ticket.

2. At the District office his registration is obtained, and an order for food or lodging furnished if needed.

3. That all applicants for this kind of relief shall be subject to a common supervision, all orders are indorsed and recorded at a police station.

This method supplies the necessities of the applicant without care or anxiety to those compelled to become interested in them; and no capital is required or risk incurred in the business of feeding and lodging the needy.

4. Families of chronic beggars should be broken up when no other means can be successfully employed, sending the parents to the Work-house, jail, or hospital, and securing for the children places in good families, reform schools, or children's homes.

In order to suppress vagrancy more effectually the enactment and enforcement of necessary laws must be resorted to. When gentler means have been tried and found unavailing, when employment has been offered and rejected, when, by the mistaken benevolence of the almsgiver, the vagrant and chronic street beggar is still enabled to resist every effort to make a man of him, then must the strong arm of the law be invoked.

Heroic remedies are sometimes as necessary in the suppression of vagrancy as in surgery and medicine.

There is probably no class in the community so brimful of cunning, nor so charged with the principle of eternal vigilance as the chronic beggar when plying his vocation. Where vagrancy laws are in force he has one eye out for the person appealed to, while the other is steadily on the look out for danger.

5. The Police department is a most valuable coadjutor in this part of the work of Charity Organization.

The active sympathy and co-operation of every alms-giving citizen in the community should be enlisted in a crusade against indiscriminate bestowal of charity, by frequently impressing their minds with the insignificance of the good resulting from such charity, in comparison with the evil and mischief effected by giving freely to every beggar of whose condition they know nothing.

6. The public press and the free circulation of printed information are the true mediums through which to impress upon the public the evil at-

tendant upon injudicious giving, and the methods recommended in its stead explained.

The public has a great duty to do in the suppression of mendicancy, and the clergy can do a great work if they will only practically turn their attention to this matter. They will be listened to by many who cannot be otherwise reached. Let them throw aside sectarian prejudice and unite with all in this great work. Charity is not the prerogative or specialty of any church or sect, but the duty alike of all, for impostors prey alike upon all.

It is only by a systematic union that the evil can be rooted out.

How best can Charity Organization Societies suppress vagrancy and street begging?

1. By carefully providing for the full investigation of all cases, and the relief of the few found worthy and needy; by offering and enforcing work, and when necessary supplying temporarily something to eat and somewhere to sleep.

2. By pursuing the chronic beggar and tramp until "the places which knew him shall know him no more"—and this, by enlightening the public through pamphlets, the press, and the pulpit as to his character and habits of life, and as to the effect of indiscriminate alms-giving, and thus cut off the means of his support.

3. By procuring and rigidly enforcing the requisite laws to punish him; cut him off from his family and provide for the sustenance and education of his children away from his pernicious example.

NEW YORK GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.

The Eleventh Annual Convention of the County Superintendents of the Poor of New York State took place recently in Buffalo. The deliberations were characterized by earnest desire to obtain the best practical results from the combined experience of all. The value of such conference and co-operation is being more and more recognized, and much benefit to the poor, and consequently to the community at large, must necessarily result.

When local communities will appreciate the benefit of such conference and co-operation, not only among their Poor-officials, but also among their local charities, and insist upon it as a condition of support, the proper "Organization of Charity" will be reached. The remarks of two of the speakers are worthy of notice:

The Queen's County Superintendent (Mr. Sullivan), said "that in that county more paupers were made by County Superintendents, and Overseers of the Poor than by any other means. This was due to the indiscriminate manner in which relief was granted. It would be a saving for every town to send to the County Poor House every family made destitute by drunkenness. There was too much charity in this country. When the speaker was elected Overseer in the town of Flushing, he prosecuted twenty-seven liquor sellers in one day for selling liquor to habitual drunkards. He sent a good many paupers to the poor-house, and a good many more to the jail. He was so close in his investigation of the merits of applicants for relief that he acquired the reputation of being a very mean man; but the result was that the following year these people were industrious, sober and economical, and the expense of Poor Relief was paid for by the Excise Money. Politics too often interferes with an Overseer of the Poor and County Superintendents in the discharge of their duty. It is for that reason that the tax-payers in many localities suffer greatly. The rum influence is the principal cause of pauperism, but the *saloon keepers are not so much to blame as the alms givers*, men and women who act upon the appeals of paupers without knowing the actual character and merits of the applicant. Let men who hang around a rum seller's store, and keep themselves filled with liquor, leaving their families to be sustained by public charity, let them learn that they will be sent to a work house, and they will change their tactics. They will turn over a new leaf, grab every little labor they can discover, and not dicker with their employer as to the compensation they will receive. As a result they will become respectable and well-to-do citizens. The speaker was opposed to town poor houses, because they encouraged pauperism.

The representative of Monroe County thought that the great trouble in county poor houses had been that efforts were made to run them too cheaply. Humanity was to be considered as well as economy. In the poor houses the sexes should be kept separate, and each class provided with employment. In regard to the reduction of pauperism in the next generation, the education of the children, and providing them with homes, must accomplish this result. The present system of giving out-

door relief is the great source of pauperism. Where the parents are given to drink, and incapable of training their offspring, they should not receive aid. Their children should be taken away from them and given to those who will bring them up to become useful and respectable citizens; otherwise, they will drift into confirmed pauper habits as naturally as water flows down hill. They should not be kept in public institutions, only just long enough to fit them for family training.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF IN THE UNITED STATES.

Abstract of a paper read by MR. SETH LOW, of Brooklyn, before the National Conference of Charities and Correction, Boston, July 26th, 1881.

A great part of the work of a Charity Organization Society in any city concerns that large class of people who ask for relief in their own homes. Such relief is known, technically, as Out-door Relief, as opposed to relief given in the poor house or institutions.

One of the first things Organization in Charity seeks to accomplish is to harmonize public and private efforts at Out-door Relief. It would be easy to show some of the difficulties in the way of effecting this, but it seems better at this time to discuss the general question of Public Out-door Relief in this country, and particularly to inquire whether it is a substantial good in any of our cities.

Outdoor Relief exists in England, and we adopted it early in our history without question. In most of our older States it was probably engrafted into the Poor Law prior to that terrible indictment of the system in England itself, by the Poor Law Commission in 1834, which said that Outdoor Relief ought to be abolished, because it was the fruitful parent of pauperism.

Outdoor Relief appears to be now an integral point of our Poor Law system everywhere, except in some of the Southern States, where it is unknown.

It behoves us to inquire upon what ground the Commissioners of 1834 condemned Outdoor Relief in England; to learn whether their conclusions were of universal truth, or of local force only. They say, upon page 279 of their report, "we have dwelt at so much length on the necessity of abolishing Outdoor Relief to the able bodied, because we are convinced that it is the master evil of the present system. * * * If relief to the able-bodied, on terms more eligible than regular industry, be allowed to continue, pauperism, with its train of evils, must steadily advance," and recommend that all relief to able-bodied people, or their families, other than in well-regulated Workhouses, shall be declared unlawful. They further say of the general effects of Outdoor Relief, in substance:

- 1—That it saps their habits of industry;
- 2—That it discourages habits of frugality;
- 3—That it encourages improvident and wretched marriages;
- 4—That it produces discontent.

The reasons for these conclusions seem to be summed up in the thought that all relief given to the able-bodied in their homes is simply so much added to their incomes without labor. As a matter of fact, the sense of shame in first seeking relief quickly gives way to the feeling that every poor person is fairly entitled to his share of all the relief going. They further suggest that all such relief should come from private sources, and so stand distinctly as a Charity. Outdoor Relief, in their judgment, is a vital evil, and admits of no remedy. If this conclusion is sound we should expect to find the same evils resulting in the United States. We should expect to find it at its worst in cities, because there the difficulty of discerning true need is greatest. The unworthy reap all the advantages, in the centres of civilization, of the privacy of a crowd.

Perhaps the most thorough official inquiry which has been made on American soil, as to the operation of Outdoor Relief in this country, was instituted in Massachusetts in 1871, as to the operation of the system in that State.

A series of seven questions was proposed to obtain results of the experience of Overseers of the Poor. Answers were received from one hundred and sixty towns, and an examination of the replies shows that the same evils recognized in England largely existed in Massachusetts, but the weight of opinion was, that to do away with Outdoor Relief was certain to result in great hardship to many deserving poor; and, if excluded entirely, that the almshouse, unless of mammoth proportions, would not hold the paupers.

This statement is quoted because, since this investigation Outdoor Relief has been abolished in two of the largest cities of the country, and the effect feared has not followed in either case.

"Outdoor Relief was abolished in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1878. The extent to which Outdoor Relief was administered in that city during the last years of its existence is shown by the following figures:

	<i>No. Relieved.</i>	<i>At a cost of</i>
1875.....	35,850	\$115,346
1876,	44,208	101,846
1877,.....	46,350	141,207
1878, Coal only.		

The populations of the Almshouse and hospital indicate as nearly as may be the number wholly supported by the County during this period. At the date of the first report in January for the last years when Outdoor relief existed, the official returns were as follows:

	<i>Almshouse.</i>	<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1875,.....	630	246	876
1876,.....	743	364	1,107
1877,.....	1,071	300	1,371
1878,.....	1,106	265	1,371

For the years following the figures are as follows:

	<i>Almshouse.</i>	<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1879,.....	1,058	331	1,389
1880,.....	877	322	1,199
1881,.....	877	294	1,171

It will be observed that the number of inmates in the two institutions in 1879, the year following the abolition of Outdoor Relief, was but eighteen larger than in the two preceding years.

Instead, therefore, of Brooklyn needing, as the result of the abolition of Outdoor Relief, a mammoth Almshouse, we find a decrease of both sick and well paupers; and this, too, in face of a population growing at the rate of 18,000 per annum. Furthermore; no additional burden was thrown on the only general Relief-giving Society, "The Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor," which distributed, expenses included, as follows:

1875,.....	\$24,383
1876,.....	22,964
1877,.....	22,537
1878,.....	21,458
1879,.....	20,821
1880,.....	17,335

When it is recalled that from 1872 to 1877 an average of \$115,000 a year was distributed annually in Public Outdoor Relief, the full force of these facts begins to be understood.

In 1879 Philadelphia likewise abolished Outdoor Relief. The amount distributed in this way in Philadelphia, as stated by the Secretary of the Philadelphia Charity Organization Society, was:

1875, about	\$82,000
1876, "	82,000
1879, "	66,000

The population of the various city Almshouses in September of these years was as follows:

1875,	3,488 inmates.
1876,	2,599 "
1879,	2,036 "

On September 30, 1880, the total population of the Almshouses was 2,008, so that in Philadelphia also Outdoor Relief was abolished apparently without increasing the number of paupers wholly supported by the city. A similar diminution in the call on private funds is also to be noted.

The experience of Brooklyn and Philadelphia proves, beyond controversy, that in those cities private benevolence is equal to the burden of such Outdoor Relief as may be actually needed.

An Overseer of the Poor in New York is reported to have said "Outdoor Relief is as catching as the small-pox." Not only so, it is almost as disastrous, certainly in cities, to the families who catch it.

A remarkable illustration of variation in Outdoor Relief in our Western States is seen in Centre Township, Indiana, in which is the City of Indianapolis. In 1875 and 1876 the Township Trustee distributed nearly \$90,000 a year. Since that time a new trustee has found \$8,000 a year to be sufficient. It seems hardly doubtful to a stranger that the private benevolence of Centre Township could cope successfully with all the real need without the latter small sum.

In the preparation of this paper a letter was addressed to each State in the Union with questions relative to their system of Outdoor Relief, with the idea of taking a somewhat extended survey of the whole field. The answers received were not sufficiently general to make this possible.

Sixteen States, however, did respond, and a few of points interest may be gleaned from their replies.

Public Outdoor Relief seems to be scarcely known in the Southern States. The mildness of their climate, and the demand for labor, thus far appears to have saved them from adopting it.

Some of the larger cities have organization for work among the poor, and these appear to be equal to ordinary needs.

In Connecticut, for example, every town is obliged to support such of its inhabitants as cannot or do not support themselves. The town, it would appear, may choose whether to send to the Poor-house or to give Outdoor Relief.

In New York, on the other hand, Outdoor Relief can be given only under two considerations, viz.: To persons not in condition to be removed to the Poorhouse, and in cases when the disability is likely to be temporary.

In Indiana, the township trustee is made the Overseer of the Poor. "In the office of the trustee is lodged the largest personal discretion, the fewest regulations. He has the power of refusing or giving relief."

In some States the towns regulate Outdoor Relief, in others the counties. In Wisconsin the tendency is towards a mixed system, giving to the county the care of the permanent poor, and leaving the matter of Outdoor Relief to the town.

In Michigan, on the other hand, the current seems to set away from the towns towards county control.

From St. Paul the report is that the system of Outdoor Relief, as applied there, produces pauperism. It worse than fails to do the thing it should; it increases the evil it ought to reduce.

From Providence, R. I., and from Cleveland, O., a contribution to the general subject is made in the application of the work test.

In Providence it resulted as follows:

In 1878 the cost of Outdoor Relief was.....	\$150,051
In 1879 the work test reduced it to	7,333
In 1880 " " " "	4,736

In Cleveland, Outdoor Relief was administered in

	<i>No. of Families.</i>	<i>Cost.</i>
1875,.....	4,590	\$95,000
1876,.....	3,094	85,000
1877,.....	2,386	70,000

In March, 1877, they commenced the system of compelling every able-bodied male applicant to work at the rate of \$1.00 per day for all relief obtained. The result appears in the following figures:

1878,.....	1,568	\$32,300
1879,.....	1,550	22,600
1880,.....	1,200	17,000

From the States which have State Boards of Charities the information given was full and clear. Of all the directions in which Charity Organization is needed, and where it would yield the richest and most direct return, that direction would seem to be in the organization of State Boards of Charity.

The subject of Outdoor Relief is too vast in its extent and too intricate in its relations to be treated dogmatically by any one. The present contribution to the theme is submitted in the spirit of one open still to learn from those who differ, as from those who may agree with its conclusions.

These are, briefly:

That Outdoor Relief, in the United States as elsewhere, tends inevitably and surely to increase pauperism;

That in towns and cities it is not needed;

That even in villages it can probably be dispensed with.

In thinly settled sections its evils are at the lowest ebb, while its benefits at the same time are greatest. If coupled with the condition of work in return for relief, which in the country ought to be easy of accomplishment, Outdoor Relief in the country would probably be free from serious objection. On the same basis, it is relieved from its chief harmfulness everywhere.

One more point seems too important to be omitted. In some States, or sections of States, the office of Overseer of the Poor is at the bottom of the political ladder. The Overseers are chosen for short terms, and are expected to serve party or personal ends. It is needless to say, that, in the hands of such officers, Outdoor Relief is an instrument full of danger to the common weal. Long terms of office may help to modify the evil, but there is no effectual remedy while the administration of the poor funds is controlled in the interest of politics. Where this is known to be the case in any city or town or hamlet, for the sake of the poor, for the sake of the locality, for the sake of the country, let civil service reform begin there.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Stevens, and addressed to one of our Directors, will be read with interest by many, both inside and outside of the Protestant Episcopal Church, as the judgment of an experienced and conservative mind:

"July 28th, 1881.

* * * * * I do, indeed, take a deep interest in the Charity Organization Society, and shall be glad to aid their good work to the extent of my time and ability. The system, if it is as faithfully carried out as it is wisely planned, is judicious, ample and economical. Pauperism, in my judgment, is a disease, a fungus growth on the body politic; to be cured, not so much by the indirect attention to the excrescence, as to the constitutional disturbances which create the morbid growth. Among these constitutional disturbances, I place indiscriminate Charity as one of prime influence. It fosters the very evil it ostensibly seeks to correct; and breaks down that independence, and self-reliance, and self-respect in the recipient, which soon converts him into an habitual pauper. Your Organization, to a great extent, meets this evil. Among the means of radical cure is the giving of prompt and ample help to the really necessitous, so as to set them up in work, and thus to help themselves, instead of doling out to them such dribblets as only keep them within the pale of beggary. Here again, your organization meets the case. How far this plan, as a whole, can be worked in with our several Church Societies remains to be seen. My experience, as the Rector of a large City Parish, taught me that there was an out-lying field of want, which could only be delicately and properly reached by the alms of the Church, through the Church. While at the same time it taught me that by far the large majority of cases brought to the notice of Parochial Societies, could just as easily, and even more wisely, perhaps, be met by secular agencies, than through ecclesiastical ones. The whole subject has engaged much of my thought, and whatever influence I may have will be cheerfully given towards perfecting an organization that shall mitigate, if it cannot relieve, the crying evil of wasteful, indiscriminate and mis-called Charity. * * * * *

The remarks of the Bishop of London are admirable and fully accord with my personal knowledge of him and his work. * * * * *

I remain, very truly yours,

(Signed) WM. BACON STEVENS."

DUTIES OF DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES.

A Board of Trustees for an important Charity should represent, as far as practicable, the different classes and professions of society. There is danger in a board being too wealthy and distinguished, as well as too humble. First of all, men are needed who have a deep moral interest in the work, and who will take a practical part in it. Then they must be men of such high character and integrity that the community will feel no anxiety at committing to them "trust funds." As few "figure heads" should be taken in as possible—that is, persons of eminent names, for the mere purpose of making an impression on the public. Men of wealth are needed for a thousand emergencies; men of moderate means also, who can appreciate practical difficulties peculiar to this class; men of brains to guide and suggest, and men of action to impel. There should be lawyers in such a board, for many cases of legal difficulty will arise; and, if possible, physicians, as charities have so much to do with sanitary questions. Two classes only had better not be admitted; men of very large wealth, as they seldom contribute more than persons of moderate property, and discourage others by their presence in the Board; and clergymen with parishes, the objection to the latter being that they have no time for such labors, and give a sectarian air to the charity.

It is exceedingly desirable that the trustees or managers of our benevolent institutions should take a more active and personal part in their management. The peculiar experience which a successful business career gives, the power both of handling details and large interests; the capacity of organization; the energy and the careful judgment and knowledge of men which such a life develops, are the qualities most needed in managing moral and benevolent "causes."

A trustee of a Charity will often see considerations which the workers in it do not behold, and will be able frequently to judge of its operations from a more comprehensive point of view. The great duty of trustees, of course, should be to rigidly inspect all accounts, and to be responsible for the pecuniary integrity of the enterprise. The carrying-out of the special plan of the association, and all the details, should be left with one executive officer. If there is too great interference in details by the Board of Management, much confusion ensues, and often personal jealousies and bickerings. Many of our Boards of Charities have almost

been broken up by internal petty cabals and quarrels. The agents of benevolent institutions, especially if not mingling much with the world, are liable to small jealousies and rivalries.

The executive officer must throw the energies of a business into his labor of benevolence. He must be allowed a large control over subordinates, and all the machinery of the organization should pass through his hands. He must especially represent the work, both to the Board and to the world. If his hands be tied too much he will soon become a mere routine agent, and any one of original power would soon leave the position. Again, in his dealings with the heads of the various departments or branches of the work, he must seek to make each agent feel responsible, and to a degree independent, so that his labor may become a life-work, and his reputation and hope of means may depend on his energy and success. If on all proper occasions he seeks to do full justice to his subordinates, giving them their due credit and promoting their interests, and strives to impart to them his own enthusiasm, he will avoid all jealousies and will find that the charity is as faithfully served as any business house.

The success in "organization" is mainly due to success in selecting your men. Some persons have a faculty for this office; others always fail in it.

Then, having the proper agents, great consideration is due towards them. Some employers treat their subordinates as if they had hardly a human feeling. Respect and courtesy always make those who serve you more efficient. Too much stress, too, can hardly be laid on frank and unsuspicious dealing with employees. Suspicion renders its object more ignoble. A man who manages many agents must show much confidence; yet, of course, be strict and rigid in calling them to account. It will be better for him also not to be too familiar with them.—*Charles Loring Brace.*

FOREIGN CHARITY ITEMS.

OUT of more than 1,300 girls who have been brought up in the Princess Louise Home, only 19 have been dismissed for improper conduct.

THE amount expended in Manchester on out-door relief during the week ending June 11th was the lowest on record.

IN London an effort is being made to secure the appointment of properly-qualified and suitable Women as Guardians of the Poor.

THE Manchester and Salford Children's Aid Society has been formed with the view of limiting the employment of children in the streets to certain hours. A reading-room has been opened for the boys to prevent their lounging in the streets. The news-boys will not be permitted to sell later than 8.30 P. M.

A RENT Club is about to be started to collect weekly money for the payment of rents. A like plan has been proposed for school children to encourage the habit of thrift.

A HOME for drunkards, similar to the Franklin Reformatory in Philadelphia, is to be established in London under an act of 1879, the initiatory steps having been taken at a meeting held at the Mansion House.

CASES.

Case No. 94.—A man was sent to the Central Office with a note, from a manufacturing company in West Philadelphia, to whom he had applied for relief and work, referring him to our care. The man stated that he had been employed by a farmer in Montgomery County, and that he was perfectly destitute. His story being partially corroborated, and his appearance seeming to justify, one of our Directors present gave him an order for three days' board at the House of Industry, while he should look for work. The next day the Matron of the House reported that she had given the man his dinner and supper, but on being requested to conform to the rules and take a bath before retiring to his clean bed, he became affronted and left. The next day a reply from the farmer informed us that he never knew or employed a man by the name given, and the man has not been seen or heard of since. A fair sample of the plausible persons constantly appealing for help to those supposed to be too busy to investigate, and too kind to refuse. He could afford to throw away three days' board rather than endure the hardship of a private bath.

BOSTON CASES.

A lady in Roxbury, having little money, but much time, told beggars who came to her door, that they must need more than she could give, but that if they would leave their names and addresses she would go to see them, and make some arrangements for their relief. She did not succeed in getting a single address, and finally no more beggars came, though her neighbors were still called upon.

At a house where tramps often came for breakfast or supper, it was decided that each should be required to do some work, pulling up grass in the sidewalk, cutting grass, sawing wood, or doing any of the minor things that always need to be done about a small place. At once a change was perceptible; few tramps came, and of those who called, there was seldom one unwilling to work for a meal. The unworthy knew the house and avoided it.

In both of these cases, the beggars had not the false and frequent excuse that the societies to whom they were sent would not or could not aid them, and both prove what the societies have always claimed, that no beggar should be helped at the door, even to food which he eats then and there. Gifts in that way help to create the class of persons who live upon the community.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. II, NO. 13.
WHOLE NO. 25.

PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 15, 1881.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL NOVEMBER 15TH.

Monday,	October	24,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	November	7,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Tuesday,	November	1,	3 P. M., Women's General Conference.‡
Monday,	November	14,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†At 1420 Chestnut Street.

‡At Y. M. C. A. Building, S. E. corner 15th and Chestnut Streets.

TO OUR READERS.

If you are interested in the consideration of matters relating to social and charitable economy, and are not already a subscriber to the MONTHLY REGISTER, please send us your subscription.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask you to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of your thoughtful friends. You can

GET YOUR OWN COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER.

To every one sending us \$5.00, with the address of ten new subscribers, we will send a copy of "THE DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK," by Chas. Loring Brace, one of the most thrilling and instructive books of the time.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

WANTED.—The attention of Visitors and Superintendents is called to the fact that the Woman's Hospital is in want of suitable women to train as Nurses. This opens an immediate support for those who undertake it, with a certainty of lucrative and permanent future employment for those who develop fitness and ability in the profession.

CO-OPERATION.

The first object of the Society for Organizing Charity in Philadelphia was to secure intelligent and friendly co-operation between all institutions, Societies and individuals engaged in providing for the poor. The progress has been slow chiefly because of the jealousies which unhappily exist in the management of many of the old relieving agencies in the City. These Societies and institutions appear to be unwilling to trust each other, unwilling to instruct each other except by their blunders, unwilling to help each other, unwilling to co-operate with each other in such ways as to be of practical use to the public in the effort to find an intelligent answer to the oft recurring question, "What shall a great city do with its poor?" To feed the poor in idleness is to invite idleness to be fed, to send them to the Work-house is impracticable. Yet it is precisely these two extremes that are in general use wherever the principles of Organized Charity have not prevailed. These principles, when adopted, bring these extremes together and into co-operation; the duty to provide food, fuel and clothing, and the duty to provide employment, are joined upon the fundamental premises that the former is temporary in its application to individuals, the latter life-long, nay, from generation to generation.

In the administration of municipal affairs, one department paves a street; another tears up the pavement and builds a sewer, then repaves; a third tears up the pavement and lays down a water-pipe and repaves; a fourth tears up the pavement and lays down gas mains and then repaves; thus a street that would be the better for one paving is paved four times, in part, at the expense of the citizens who are willing that things should be so managed. The Charities of the City are managed upon the same lack of principle. Four are doing what should be the work of one, and consequently what should be done once well is done four times, greatly to the injury of the subject, and in ways most expensive to the public. Co-operation once established, and adhered to, would ensure prompt and effective relief to all who needed; would lift up the fallen, strengthen the weak, encourage the disheartened, repress mendicancy, find voluntary employment for the willing, and enforce it upon the vicious. These things are easily attainable through the methods prepared by Organized Charity, and the reasons in favor of such methods are conclusive upon every mind that is broad enough to comprehend them; to understand and apply them is the prerogative and duty of every institution, Society or citizen concerned in the condition of humanity in great centers of population.

There is a library at the office of this Society containing many volumes of research and information on the subject of making provision for the dependent and defective classes. These might be examined and studied during the fall and winter by persons engaged in the work of relieving the poor in this city, greatly to their own benefit, and for the general advantage of the community.

EFFECTIVE CHARITY.

In all effective organization there must be, somewhere, a nucleus or focus of central power, and this is fully as true of Organized Charities as of any other systematized forces. It does not, however, follow, that in all cities of whatever extent, there must be a series of District Associations, represented by a distinct Central Executive body. The less complex an organization can be made, the less waste of money and of effective power will there be.

The political system, which is the most perfect for a government of 50,000,000 people, would be cumbersome for a community of 100,000, and it may be doubted whether towns of less than 20,000 inhabitants need subdivide their charity work into District Associations at all.

But in a city like our own (Philadelphia), whose territory covers an area of one hundred and thirty square miles, and which is subdivided into thirty-one Wards, averaging some 27,000 inhabitants each, some of them containing near 50,000, it may readily be seen that the work of visitation and relief, if conducted by the Society, must be delegated to a number of associations, each occupying only so much ground as it can treat effectively.

Whether an organization like that in Philadelphia, or an association of the various Charitable Societies, as in Boston, is best, depends on the circumstances of each case. The latter presupposes, in order to make it feasible, an enlightenment of public opinion on the subject, so wide spread and general, as to carry with it into cordial and harmonious co-operation, all of the important charitable agencies. Such a condition hardly exists in Philadelphia, where the new movement encountered some of its most determined opposition from benevolent men, influential in the leading societies for charitable relief. Such a state of things does not exist, either, in London, where the deep-rooted prejudices of ancient and effete charities, as well as the legal obstacles arising from large and numerous funds having been created in less enlightened times, and for purposes at variance with the recent conclusions of charitable science, prevent their participation.

In either case, a central body for general and executive purposes, more or less representative in its character, seems necessary. In our city, circumstances led to the formation of two distinct bodies, the Executive Board, and what is known as the Assembly, the former only having executive functions, the latter for conference, deliberation and debate.

These are the principal agencies by which the working body is brought *en rapport* with the charitable world without.

The Assembly is, in itself, a sort of Social Science Association, so far as Charities are concerned, and is called together monthly for the free discussion of the science of Charity. No part of the whole work has been found more valuable, none more intensely interesting than these frequent conferences for the general flow and interchange of ideas on these important topics.

It is all the more important because the whole community manifestly stand in need of a several years' course of study in them.

Continual evidences present themselves to our view, that the fundamental ideas of wise and systematic charity have not yet entered the heads of many people, who are nevertheless longing to engage in charitable work. The same wasteful, duplicating way of giving, the same disposition to pet and foster poverty by maudlin sympathy and lavish support, to the utter destruction of self-reliance, the same inclination to get rid of importunity by feeding street beggars and feeding tramps, the same ignorance of the science of prevention still exist.

But, thanks to these conferences, and the free use of printer's ink, there is reason to believe there has been a large growth of correct ideas outside, and a refreshing life within the Society. For even the workers need informing and perhaps the science of true charity is yet in its infancy.

Not much less important than the Assembly, are the Conferences of Women Visitors, and those of the Superintendents, for a comparison of experiences, and for general suggestion and mutual stimulus.

The subdivision of the Assembly into Committees, on the leading departments of charitable work, furnishes the means of working up and formulating subjects for discussion at the public meetings. * * * *

The results of some of these discussions are very marked, the recommendations adopted having weight with the community, and although they have not all been carried out, many of the suggestions thrown out have set men's minds in fermentation, and are preparing them for action.

It is thought that the growth of the Kindergarten movement for poor children, the larger interest in industrial education, the increase in habits of providence among the working classes, a greater care for the health of infants, and even a general tendency to the reformation of abuses, social and political, may in a great measure, be traced to these conferences. Indeed this provision of an Assembly for discussion may be

looked upon as the vital organ of Charity organization in our midst, while the Executive Board and other agencies are its hands and feet.

The power thus exerted upon Society is remarkable, though in many respects indescribable, and if I were asked what is the most valuable branch of our Society's operations, as well as the most characteristic, I would be inclined to answer, the Discussions of the Assembly.

The appointment of an ample number of committees, custodians each of its appropriate subdivision of the whole subject, is regarded as a matter of great importance. Not only does this contribute greatly to efficiency, but it also keeps alive, by participation, the interest of the best minds and the most vigorous workers, in the cause, whose craving for employment would lead many of them into some other channel of activity, if they did not find it here. Each branch of the subject is also more thoroughly sifted in a small Committee, than it would be in a larger body.

P. C. G.

IMPROVIDENCE, AND ITS REMEDIES.

By SIR CHAS. TREVELYAN, of London (abstract of his paper before the Boston Conference of Charities).

When we wish to influence others we usually endeavor to discover their motives, and to operate upon them. When a physician sets about healing disease, he begins by making a *diagnosis*; in order that he may apply an appropriate remedy. But how have we dealt with our national vice of improvidence, the twin sister of pauperism? We have lectured and preached thrift, and we have provided savings banks for those who choose to exercise this virtue. But our action has been contrary to our teaching. So far from having searched out the causes, and offered counteracting motives, we have only applied new stimulants to the prevailing recklessness, and have irritated and aggravated the disease by our treatment.

Thrift is a moral quality, and there is no lack of moral influences to promote it, if we do not aspire to be wiser than nature and revelation. The greatest moral regulator and corrective of all is labor. The divine law is, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." St. Paul goes further: "If any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel;" and if there is one truth more than another shining forth in the Bible, it is that "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap," or, as the Spanish proverb has it, "Every man is the child of his own deeds."

The family home is another divine institution of most salutary influence and power. It is the bond of domestic mutual dependence, the nursery of the affections, and the best school for acquiring every day practical experience of men and manners.

All these divine laws are set at naught by the manner in which our poor law and charity are administered. Out-door relief provides a ready-made insurance at the public expense, which men and women claim, as a matter of course. The motive to save, therefore, never arises. Indeed, precisely contrary moves are raised. The more a man saves, the less he gets; if, by industry and self-denial, he entirely provides for himself, he gets nothing; if he spends everything in self-indulgence, he obtains a full provision at the expense of the honest and self-denying. It is idle mockery to exhort people to be thrifty, while, in practice, we force prodigality upon them. As for family feeling, it has been reduced to the lowest ebb in the dependent classes. The desertion of wife and children has become a disgracefully frequent practice, and husband and wife often collude together to throw the charge of maintaining the family upon the public by the husband keeping out of the way.

Parents spend their earnings at the public house, and turn their children into the street neglected, ragged, half-starved, to qualify them for public or private charity, reclaiming them in after years, when their labor has become valuable. The effect upon widows and their children is especially mischievous. When a woman becomes a widow, charitable ladies rush at her, putting one child into an orphanage, another into a "home;" and the woman, relieved from maternal responsibility and the daily exercise of the affections connected with it, often ends by going to the bad. The social corruption engendered by these influences is very great. Aged parents even consider it wrong to ask their children for assistance, and avail themselves of the public provision open to them. The main support of the public-house is the class which is relieved from all necessity for self-denial by our mistaken charity.

The solution of this problem is to be found in the gradual substitution of wise, discriminate, Organized Charity, for the master evil of out-door relief. In London out-door relief has been discontinued with perfect success in three of the largest and poorest Unions, Whitechapel, Stepney, and St. George-in-the-East, and most of the other Unions have made considerable progress in the same direction. So far from causing increased distress, the social forces which had been repressed by out-door relief are

set free by its withdrawal; people recover the sense of personal responsibility, work harder, save more, and, being no longer able to quarter their aged parents and other dependent relatives on the rates, accept the duty of providing for them. Charity also comes more fully up to the mark when it is distinctly placed in charge of a class of cases which is more properly of charitable than of State concern. The fountain of British charity is inexhaustible, and there is no object for which money is so readily forthcoming as for making a suitable provision for innocent infirmity and deserving old age, in every case that is properly investigated and attested. What is wanted is, not money, but good administration.

The process by which legal out-door relief has been abolished in the East End Unions is briefly this: No new cases are placed on the out-relief list, and any cases which are not proper for the workhouse, are referred to the Charity Organization Committee. Each case is then thoroughly investigated, and effectually dealt with according to its merits. Any requisite help is given—if possible by loan—to restore to a position of self-support persons in temporary distress, and often to remove them to places where they have friends, or can obtain employment. In case of permanent distress from infirmity or old age, all the circumstances are investigated, and, after taking into account any means which ought to be brought in aid, arising from savings, or any industry of which the applicant may still be capable, or from the contributions of relatives or former employers, the deficiency is made up by a pension renewable at intervals, and subject to the condition that alms are not to be asked for in any other quarter.

This process is equally applicable in town and country. The essential point is *that the charitable agencies of each Union should be represented by a responsible committee, acting in concert with the Board of Guardians*. Everything then falls into its place; and, by means of individual arrangements easily made, material assistance is combined with the higher charity of personal interest and care.

In all our proceedings we should keep before us the reintegration of the "family home," and the revival of a sense of parental responsibility among those who have been depraved by our mistaken public and private charity. The gradual abolition of legal out-door relief will do a great deal; the restoration of pauper orphans to family life through the boarding-out system is another step in the right direction; but no effectual progress will be made until we cease to tempt parents to neglect their children by simply relieving them of the charge, and enabling them to spend all they get in debauchery, whereby the crop of "gutter children" is perpetually renewed.

Whenever a child is thrown upon the public for any part of its maintenance, all the circumstances should be strictly investigated; proved neglect of duty on the part of parents should be exposed and punished; and, if the children have to be placed in an industrial school or other asylum, the parents should not be permitted to reclaim them after their labor has become valuable. The parents would then have some real fear of penal consequences, and the motive to such misconduct would be much diminished. If we would succeed, we must obey natural laws, and be "workers together with God." His institutions will outlast ours, and while we prefer our ways to His, as we have done of late years, we shall continue to wander further from our object.

SOCIETY'S WORK.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The stated meeting of the Women's General Conference was held Tuesday, Oct. 4th at 3 P. M., at the Hall, 1420 Chestnut St. The President, Mrs. Gillingham, in the Chair, and Miss Julia Myers, of the 9th Ward Corps, acting as Secretary.

Reports from 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th and 19th Wards were read, and embraced the following details of work performed, viz: Placed in hospitals, dispensaries, etc., 45; in Almshouse, 1; in House of Correction, 5; homes found for mothers with children, 6; transportation given to their own homes, 2; permanent employment found for 49; country-week excursions for 196; day excursions, 3450; sent to Sanitarium, 266; medical visits provided to 25; taken from station houses and cared for as needed, 14; sewing machine recovered, 1. These statistics are very meagre, and are but a slight indication of the work performed, even in the few Wards reporting. The absence of reports from eighteen out of twenty-three of the Ward Corps, is due to the continued warm weather, and the consequent prolonged absence of many officers from the city. It is hoped that at the next Conference the reports will be full and specific. The new form of report will greatly facilitate the collection of details.

Miss Anna Hallowell requested information as to the significance of the term "undeserving" occurring in the report of the 9th Ward. It was

explained by Miss Myers, and the General Secretary, that the term was necessarily employed, as required by the form of classification adopted by the Society, and as essential to the proper understanding of the character of the poverty in the city; that it did not thereby imply that the case was abandoned, but merely that the question of immediate relief was thus settled. Many "undeserving" cases were at once put in the hands of the wisest and most experienced Visitors, for the exercise of all those kindly acts and friendly influences by which they might be reclaimed and made worthy and independent members of the community, and many had been thus rescued.

Mrs. John Lucas called the attention of the Conference to the need of uniformity in Ward work; and, also that the best means to bring about such uniformity were Ward Houses which should include laundries, day-nurseries, kindergartens, sewing departments, etc., and thereby bring the applicants more closely into daily contact with the Visitors.

The President, Miss Gillingham, tendered her resignation as Chairman of the Conference, but no action was taken thereon.

A committee to nominate officers to serve during the coming year was formed as follows: Miss Jean A. Flanigen, Mrs. S. I. Lesley, Mrs. Wm. Pearsall, Mrs. M. T. Gawthrop, Mrs. G. A. Dadmun.

The General Secretary, Mr. Kellogg, welcomed the Visitors back to their self-imposed duties, and assured them of the unabated sympathy and respect of the central authorities of the Society for the admirable and noble manner in which their labors have been maintained. The warmest hopes for the success of the whole work was drawn from the intelligent fidelity of the Visitors in the past. By way of reminding them of the fundamental principles and aims of the Society, he quoted from Dr. J. G. Holland, showing that in other cities equally with Philadelphia, existed the same disorganized, opposing and rival relief agencies, public and private, which moved the citizens of this city to call this Society into being—"organized disorganization":—"warring parts, moved by discordant aims, vitalized by differing and often jarring motives, seeking incongruous ends, which ought to be factors of a harmonious whole." These are "padding around among palliatives"—with "surface views, surface work, surface results everywhere. Much for palliation, nothing for cure." "Nourishing, not designedly, of course, and not directly, perhaps, but still nourishing in spite of themselves—the very vice whose consequences they endeavor to assuage." The one remedy for these evils is concerted, intelligent, harmonious unity of all benevolent workers, thinkers and givers in one compact organization moving together upon the *causes* of the pauperism and poverty about us. And the great instrumentality in applying the remedies, in closing the fearful chasm between the rich and the poor, and in bringing them into mutual sympathy and respect, is the personal influence directly exercised by the Visitors.

He further suggested the consideration of measures to increase the numbers of Visitors, and a Committee consisting of Mrs. J. P. Mumford, Mrs. S. D. Wharton, and Mrs. Dadmun, was appointed to deliberate and report upon the subject.

Mr. Samuel Huston, of the central Board of Directors, spoke in regard to the Soup Houses of the city, in one of which he had been an active worker for many years. There were in the city twelve such houses, which are occupied but ten or twelve weeks of the year. If, instead, they could be used as Ward houses for day nurseries, schools, etc., they could then be usefully occupied fifty-two weeks. As a result of the investigations instituted by the Charity Organization, there was more money sent in for the Soup Houses than was required, which could be used for the purpose indicated. He thought that, as now managed, they were doing more harm than good, and urged that the influence of the Visitors be used to secure the same change in their methods of relief and in the better use of their Soup Houses, that had been adopted by the old Philadelphia Soup House in Griscom Street.

Miss Anna Hallowell said it had been thought best by the Organization not to use the funds directly, to any large extent, for day nurseries and kindergartens, but that scattered throughout the city were ten Kindergartens supported by means of contributions, secured by Visitors and other persons interested in our own work. She desired greatly that every Ward should have at least one day nursery and one kindergarten.

An invitation was read from the Silk Culture Association, desiring the members to visit its rooms and inspect the work already accomplished there.

Miss Hancock, of 6th Ward, reported an average family of about fifteen unfortunates in their Ward House all summer; with the care of sixty-two different children, and a daily average of ten. Many of these were from other Wards; and many strange experiences have been passed through in their care of illegitimate children sent to the House. When the parents have been found, it has been impossible to discover any parental affection whatever, so the whole care devolved upon the Superin-

tendent and Visitors. There was but poor success in saving life, owing to the dreadful condition of the infants when brought to them.

Miss Hancock further stated that ninety homes were now offered for children, good homes that they knew about, and many of them in private families in the country, but they could not get the children to fill them. Some of them would take a mother and child, and others babes of all ages, and children until they were children no longer, good, bad and indifferent—good homes could be found for all.

The Conference then adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The first autumn monthly meeting of the Assembly was held on Monday evening, Oct. 3d, 1881, in the Hall at 1420 Chestnut Street. In spite of the sultry weather there was a good attendance.

Mr. Philip C. Garrett took the chair, with the announcement that it devolved upon him, as the First Vice President, to preside, in consequence of the death of the late lamented Dr. Hodge. The minutes of the last stated meeting (June) were read by the Secretary, Mr. T. C. Hand, Jr.

Robert N. Willson, Esq., presented resolutions from the pen of Prof. Robert Ellis Thompson, commemorative of the life and services of the late Dr. Hodge, accompanied by appropriate remarks. He said that Dr. Hodge was connected, almost from its inception, with this movement for securing a more thoughtful, conscientious and thorough exercise of the work of Charity, both associated and private, in our city. He did much to give it shape, and devoted to it a large measure of time, thought and counsel. Besides his faithful labors as a member and President of the Central Board and of the Assembly, his co-operation as a member of the 7th Ward Board, brought him actively into the measures pursued by this Society; and everywhere his conduct was marked by that considerateness and candor which none of his associates would ever forget. He was a thoroughly sincere man. As in his medical work he did many acts of kindness which were not heralded abroad, so here, in the opportunities which arose in the various branches of the Society's work, we shall continue to hear of instances of his modest but earnest readiness to help his fellowmen.

The resolutions, which follow, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to remove, by death, our President, Dr. H. Lenox Hodge, since the last meeting of this Assembly, therefore

Resolved, That the Assembly desire to place on their records their deep sense of the loss they have sustained in the death of their beloved President. In Dr. Hodge they possessed a man of singular and intelligent devotion to the cause of enlightened Charity, an earnest worker in its organization in this city from almost the inception of the movement, a presiding officer of inexhaustible patience and courtesy, a Christian gentleman whose life was in the exactest harmony with his professions, and a personal friend whose kindness knew no measure or bounds.

Resolved, That we tender our sympathy to his bereaved family, to the many public charities in which he was an earnest worker, and to the whole community which has lost in him one of its most useful and worthy members.

Mr. Garrett said that Dr. Hodge, as presiding officer, was distinguished by rare fidelity to the duties of his post. One of his traits was his constant urbanity; yet he was not wanting in that decision and firmness which, as chairman, he was called upon to exercise at times. Through all the tests of character which the exigencies of his official duty brought with them, he retained the unqualified respect of those who were associated with him. It might be *truly* said of him,

"None knew him but to love him—
None named him but to praise."

An election to fill the existing vacancy in the Presidency of the Assembly being called for,

Mr. Philip C. Garrett was chosen to that office, and Prof. R. E. Thompson, Ph. D., was elected Vice President, vice Mr. Garrett.

The subject of the evening was announced as Considerations for our Society, as suggested by the report and discussions upon Charity Organization in Cities, at the National Conference of Charities and Correction at Boston.

- 1.—The best form of Organization for Ward or District work.
 - 2.—To what extent should Ward or District Associations give relief from their own resources.
 - 3.—How to secure uniformity of support for District work.
- Dr. Chas. E. Cadwalader, Chairman of the Committee on "Charity Organization in Cities" of the National Conference stated the work of his

Committee, and the influence of the Conference on our Society. He would not anticipate the very full report of the proceedings of the day devoted to Charity Organization, which report would soon be ready for distribution.

The Committee, however, were surprised at the variety of features of the work reported from different cities. The London Society came in too late, but brought us a good deal of instruction. It was found that the "Friendly or Beneficial Societies" impressed those who are the most useful to the movement there. The Indianapolis Charity Organization Society took the van in the respect of having become thoroughly identified with the city and country Charities. The general admission at the Conference, was, in comparing the reports from the cities represented, that no Society had done so broad a *central* work as ours or exerted so wide an influence, while the *district* work of Buffalo and Boston excelled in thoroughness and completeness. In Boston they had men as well as women engaged in visiting; the district conferences were numerous attended, any citizen being made welcome to them; and thus they had succeeded in securing workers from the churches and a general interest on the part of congregations.

The General Secretary presented a compilation of suggestions from the paper of Mrs. Jas. T. Fields, read at the Boston Conference, as bearing upon the first division of the subject, and which were not included in the very brief notes of her paper in the August REGISTER.

1.—Care to be taken in the composition of the bodies who administer the Ward or district work, in order to secure active intelligence, the concurrence of all other Charities, and the best powers of both men and women in the treatment of family woes. Then, to effect the constant and full conference of all composing these bodies, so as to ensure harmony, wisdom and efficiency in the disposal of cases, as well as in general management.

2.—The adherence and co-operation of all religious bodies to be secured, both as needing and giving much information concerning their own poor, and as contributing workers to the Society. Each congregation should send a representative to aid in the study of cases at every Conference.

3.—Pains to be taken to become a source of information concerning all the charities, loans, legal protection, provident methods, etc., operating within the same district, that this superior intelligence may draw other workers into co-operation by the increased facilities it supplies to them.

4.—The right application of the relief provided by law and public monies, to prevent the dehumanizing effects of its injudicious use, and to secure the benefit of such a course as will educate the poor to use their own abilities for their own and the common good.

5.—No officer or director should be exempted from practical visiting in cases where they can assist in a proper solution of the case in hand.

6. The evils of inadequate attention to cases on the books, and of tardy care of new cases, were strongly depicted. Such inadequacy and delay creates public dissatisfaction, and is a failure to fulfill our pledges to the community. To meet emergencies bodies of assistant male and female Visitors would be of value, and these being under constant instruction would also supply material for Visitors and Directors as vacancies occur.

7.—Especial care to be given to gathering children into kindergartens, Sunday Schools, vacation, sewing, cooking and industrial schools. Not only are the children thus often saved, but closer relations with their families are maintained.

8.—The temptation to neglect the sunken and degraded cases for the hopeful and interesting ones must be carefully avoided. The latter give immediate gratification to visitors, but the former need the most wise and faithful treatment for their rescue.

If these and similar suggestions are passed by, Organized Charity will soon degenerate to the level of mere relief societies, and the *cure* of the evils of poverty be lost sight of. The workers also will drop into ruts and be absorbed in petty details.

The greatness of the work involves the need of great increase in the number of Visitors, and these might be reinforced and strengthened by being given positions of semi-official authority under the Boards of Health or Public Charities. The value of the service lies in the fitness of the individual workers, working in entire loyalty to the principles of Organized Charity, and in such numbers that no Visitor shall be compelled to labor beyond their ability to do thorough and efficient work.

Mr. Harold Goodwin, of the 27th Ward, in treating of the 2nd division, said that if the Society was instituted specially to collect information and statistics, and to bring about a co-operating of existing relief societies, any use of its funds for relief is plainly a breach of trust: but if instituted to supply relief where such societies do not sufficiently exist, it is plain that the branches must apply their funds for relief when needed.

In our Society, the latter is especially the case in the large rural Wards: but in the Wards where ample relieving agencies exist, the branch associations should not use their funds for relief at all. In these the soup, fuel, and relief societies, homes, nurseries, dispensaries, churches, national societies, etc., are accessible and their ministrations more easily obtained. What is wanting is more generous co-operation with these instrumentalities, and greater efforts to break down the barriers between rich and poor by friendly intercourse, without condescension, but on the level of a common humanity. Not to use any part of our own funds for relief he considered the only way to bring about co-operation and mutual acquaintance among the different societies. Directors and Visitors would then be forced to cultivate existing means of relief, and press upon them the claims of appropriate applicants, and soon they would discover that all were working to the same end and in supplementary ways, and cease to look upon each other as rivals or fanatics. With such harmony secured, the carters of City Trust and other Charity Coal would not so often report that the recipient's coal-bins were already overflowing, or that the families lived in stone-houses at a rent of \$400 or \$500 a year, the son a member of the — regiment, and the daughters devotees of music and painting. (An actual occurrence.)

In the rural Wards of this city, after all the relief afforded by the local Societies and Churches has been utilized, there is a large residuum of pauperism, poverty and crime that we must care for. And much of it can be dealt with by forming societies for specific relief, by securing private benefactors, through the public departments, and lastly, "by giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and *when all other sources fail*." New relief societies should never be instituted when the end can be accomplished by strengthening the old ones, with the understanding that they shall cover the need in the deficient districts.

J. R. Sypher, Esq., in speaking of the "Best form of organization for Ward or District work," thought our present form the best, or good enough. Constitutions and forms are a small matter: administration is the real thing. Our Society started with a declaration of the broad principle that the provision for relief of the poor in Philadelphia was more than sufficient. If this assumption of the founders was not true, he would like to see the proofs of their error; but he was satisfied that it was true, and if true, we were not called upon to distribute food, clothing and fuel. There was a good deal of loose language in use even among the members and those earnestly engaged in our work, respecting the purposes of *investigation*. It is *not* to sift out the "worthy" from the "unworthy" to relieve the one and not the other. The object of investigation is *to ascertain what sort of relief will best meet the case*. (Applause.) A family may lie to you about every particular of their case, and yet ought to be helped, not by alms, and food, and clothing, but by the friendly influences which only would be really beneficial to them. But, other things being equal, the total sum of money expended annually for provisions, etc., is *the measure of the Society's inefficiency*. It is a great thing to know how to answer the call of a suffering fellow-man for help. It is not answered, in the sense of duty and of enlightened judgment by merely giving him something. And it is a great thing to know, in case some form of physical relief is required, just where among the ample provisions of this city, to send to needy man or woman. It is a great thing to have a central well-known place not far away, a depository for such information, where you can inquire, or to which your applicant may go. There is very deep ignorance on the part of those who of all ought to know, even among gentlemen of the press and officers of the benevolent Societies, as well as citizens in general, about the sources to apply to for relief. There were three places open to receive Lizzie Aaronson, if anybody that saw her had had the knowledge—and six cents, and the requisite intelligence would have carried her there at once. It costs dollars to go round the circle of wrong places, six cents to go to the right one. Our Society is that six cents, when its purposes are carried out. Of course, if you don't know any other way, and can't find any, there is the good old way left—you can go down into your own pocket and get the sufferer a complete outfit. But most people who have tried that way know that it works evil almost invariably.

Mr. Thos. C. Hand, Jr., offered some suggestions gathered from his experience of the past three years. He found three distinct classes of co-operation necessary:—

1.—Between the various departments of each Ward Association. Directors, Visitors and Superintendent must work and confer together. In some Wards Visitors having seats in the Board of Directors has aided this. The joint weekly meetings of Directors and Visitors to discuss and study cases has greatly helped in others. In Boston the joint use of men and women Visitors has given greater efficiency.

2.—Between all the Ward or Branch Associations through the parent Society as a common centre. Of our twenty-one associations, some from

local apathy are very feeble in spite of the best efforts of the Central Society, and all would be strengthened by a reduction in number, secured by consolidating contiguous districts. He advocated the selection and appointment of Superintendents by the central body, and District Committees, as in Buffalo, selected by the central body from the residents of the district covered as far as possible.

3.—Between the Society and all other existing Charities. He illustrated the advantages of this latter co-operation by the experience of one of the Ward Associations during the year just closed on the 30th ult. Out of 359 families applying for relief, 339 had been wholly or in part aided through co-operation, *i. e.*, the needed relief in each case had been secured from existing agencies, or from private families who had assumed the care of individual cases under the advice of the Association. During the previous year the same Association relieved but 90 cases out of 404 applying through such co-operation, showing a steady attention and increasing success in this fundamental principle of the Society. The institutions, societies, churches, etc., thus co-operating were 36 in number, in addition to 204 cases adequately cared for by the Guardians of the Poor either through medical treatment or the various departments of the Almshouse; and twenty-six private persons were found to take charge of families of applicants committed to them. This aggregate of co-operation did not result from any elaborate scheme, but from the prevailing effort to apply the principle to every case where it was practicable.

Mr. R. A. Kyle, of the 30th Ward, submitted through the General Secretary the following suggestions:—that more efficient work could be done, and better support secured, by dividing the city into fewer divisions, not exceeding 20:—that the Central Board should be the custodian of all funds, and not the Ward offices:—that the Superintendents should meet and confer monthly:—that all the lady Visitors should meet en masse in their monthly conferences:—that the Directors of each district should meet and confer monthly, not by pretence but in reality and conscientiously:—and lastly, the same hearty and full conference of all Superintendents, Visitors and Directors together, in one central gathering, monthly.

The time being exhausted, but not the topic, further consideration was deferred and the Assembly adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

BOSTON, October 1st, 1881.

Last spring the following circular was drawn up by one of our Wards, thinking that as "dirt is matter in the wrong place," so pauperism may be people in the wrong place.

It was sent as an experiment to four towns, where there were friends who would undertake establishing corresponding committees to visit and watch over the families sent. In fact it was considered that these towns were annexed to the Ward.

The successes and the failures in trying to carry out this plan are too long a story for this number, but the failures were instructive as well as the successes, and we may tell the story another day:

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

CONFERENCE OF WARD VIII.

"NOT ALMS, BUT A FRIEND."

To.....
* * * * * Desiring, as we do, to adhere closely to natural and fundamental plans for improving the condition of the poor, and especially to bring labor and demand into contact, we fully recognize the fact that our large cities are vastly overcrowded with a population which, in the country towns, would fill a useful place. Not having the technical skill to become mechanics of a high order, for which there is here, as everywhere, a demand, they must, if they remain in the city, struggle on in the lowest paid industries.

Yet these people are not necessarily incompetent or degraded, but are well able to do good work, of a kind that we suppose to be much needed in the country, namely, as farm-hands, laborers, operatives, laundresses, servants,—perhaps eventually filling more responsible positions.

Of the fact that great moral, as well as physical, gain would accrue to these people themselves, we presume there could be no doubt.

In the country, every man has neighbors; in the city, he often has none. Though in the midst of a crowd, he is likely to feel alone and irresponsible.

We desire, at any rate, to ask your consideration of these views, and if you approve of them, your co-operation in carrying out the plan which they suggest, by entering into correspondence with us.

This correspondence would greatly aid us in removing the chief objection urged by those we wish to help, namely, that in exchanging the temptations and sufferings of their present lot for the better country life, they are also leaving the only friends they have ever known, and must stand alone among strangers. We think this objection could be overcome, if a few persons in your town would consent to give a little time and thought in their behalf, while ready to offer the kindly word of advice, often more valuable to the poor than any material assistance.

If you are willing to help us in this work, our plan is:

First. That you should allow us to keep you informed, of all cases in our ward of persons who, we suppose, might be benefitted by a removal to your town: If out of work, by finding employment; if unable to work, by finding a cheaper maintenance; if of intemperate habits, by being in less temptation; or in any other way.

Second. That you should consent to keep us informed of any openings for labor of any kind, stating what wages could be obtained; of any persons who might be willing to board, either for charity or at a low rate, persons disabled, wholly or in part, from earning a living; of the cost of living; of the advantages, or disadvantages, of your town, as to the associations and temptations of the poor, especially in regard to intemperance; and of any opportunities that may offer of benefitting our poor.

Third. That in case it should seem desirable to you, and to us, to remove any person or family to your town, you should agree to visit and advise them, as circumstances require, and to inform us of their welfare.

The actual number of persons whom we could induce to move into the country would probably be very small, but we think it would be of some value to have initiated the experiment.

If each ward of the city were to put itself into communication with a few, different towns, its needs could, no doubt, be sufficiently met without any great tax being made on those who should undertake to stand as our representatives. We are not aware, however, that any other ward has as yet had this step in contemplation.

LETTER FROM THE

BUFFALO CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

BUFFALO, September 30th, 1881.

The past summer has been exceptionally unhealthy in our city, from diseases which are very plainly a mere ripening of evil seeds which our own neglect has long been planting. A defective system of sewerage, creating a great, open, fermenting cess-pool in the heart of the city; an obstinate toleration of ancient wells—both public and private—which are poisoned by filtration from closet and stable drains; an imbecile government of the city in matters of street cleaning, removal of garbage, regulation of unwholesome manufactures, inspection of tenements, and the like;—these are the causes so obviously sufficient that nobody is impious enough to call Providence to account for them. The poor, of course, suffer more than their share from these evils. Otherwise, the distress of poverty would have been reduced to its minimum. Work of every kind is abundant, and the agents of the Charity Organization Society have no difficulty in finding employment for all applicants who have the least ability to work. Hence the problems with which the Society has to deal are now reduced by prosperous and busy times to the last simplicity. If it can succeed, as it is striving hard to do, in providing that all winter relief to the able-bodied shall take the form of strict wages for labor, its operations will be easy and satisfactory.

The poor Poles, who came upon us last winter in such numbers and suffered sadly in many ways, are now generally taking care of themselves. Many mistakes were made in the treatment of them, and the latest one as bad perhaps as any, though it had its spring in the most admirable generosity of feeling. To get them out of the wretched holes and tenements in which they were crowded and dying, the city, at the beginning of summer, built a temporary barrack into which numbers of them were removed. Undoubtedly many lives were saved, and much suffering alleviated. But these lodgings were made free, and so another encouragement was given to the habits of pauperism which these depressed and ignorant people seem to learn quite too easily. The city physician reported some time since that the maintenance of the barrack was no longer necessary; but it is still occupied, at least in part.

The Creche has quite realized the expectations of its founders, this summer, in the usefulness which it has demonstrated. In August four hundred and fifteen children, and during September three hundred and fifty-four children were cared for; and since its opening last January it has received two thousand one hundred and ninety-two little ones;

making them clean, comfortable and happy, while setting their mothers free to earn wages outside of home.

The trustees of the Fitch Institute have not yet disposed of any of the property placed in their hands. While anxious to forward the benevolent plans of Mr. Fitch, they are not willing to sacrifice the property through haste in selling it. They have received numerous designs for the projected building from architects at home and abroad, and some of them are highly satisfactory.

At the recent meeting of the New York State Bar Association an excellent paper on "State Legislation and Charity Organization" was presented by Mr. Sheldon T. Viele, of this city. After a succinct statement of the aims and ends of Charity Organization, and a summary presentation of the facts which measure its importance, Mr. Viele discusses in his paper the principles which should govern a careful division of charitable duties and responsibilities between the State and its citizens, and the actual measures of legislation which seem to be now most needed. He concludes: "First. A thorough revision and codification of all the laws relating to the poor is greatly needed. Some subjects have been treated both criminally and civilly; some are in direct confusion from conflicting statutes; and many of our existing provisions are merely reenactments of statutes obsolete from age and defective in principle and method. This accomplished, care should be taken that the law be thoroughly and impartially enforced. Second. A system should be devised for the co-operation and assimilation of all State, county and municipal charities, with thorough investigation and record of each case and of its antecedents. And, third, a provision should be made for closer supervision of all official charities by the present State Board of Charities, or by some larger body working on the same principle of gratuitous, self-sacrificing, intelligent and non-partisan supervision."

It is understood that the Rev. S. H. Gurteen will read a paper on "Charity Organization," at the coming meeting of the Church Congress at Newport. What he has to say on the subject will always be listened to with especial attention, for he has probably studied it longer and more closely than any other man in this country.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ARE SOUP-HOUSES DESIRABLE?

PHILADELPHIA, October 8, 1881.

Mr. Editor: The conviction for some time been a growing one with the writer, that the Soup House as a Charity, has outlived whatever usefulness it may have had among us, and ought now to pass out of existence. The considerations influencing him to the conclusion being mainly the following:

In the early days of the city, when its population was small, and the number of its poor small also, this form of charitable relief was allowable, if not desirable, on account of its simplicity and economy; and the circumstances and habits of the applicants being generally known or easily discoverable there was little or no abuse of the Charity. For the reason, too, that their poverty was patent to all, and no grades were as yet known in their class, their resort to the Soup House brought with it no sense of shame to themselves and excited no remark from others.

But with our present population and the greatly increased number of the poor, all this is changed. The difficulty of learning accurately the circumstances and habits of applicants,—that fundamental, indispensable requirement in all wisely conducted charitable work,—is very great, and owing to the little time for it at the opening of every Soup Season, practically impossible. A large proportion of all the tickets issued are accordingly to persons undeserving. They are issued, too, in the generality of cases to be used for the whole season, when the condition of the recipient may, perhaps, within a few days have so changed as to render his use of the ticket no longer necessary or proper. All which speaks the dangerous, harmful and wasteful character of the Charity.

Then the public proclamation of their poverty and beggary through the streets of the great city, forced upon parents and children who are obliged to carry their baskets and kettles to and from the Soup House, is a most painful and degrading accompaniment of the Charity, and one that has weighed more against it with the writer than any other consideration. Even the children of the less needy are known to stigmatize their poorer fellows, as *Visitors to the Soup House!* And the stigma will never be got rid of!

Adding, lastly, the fact that owing to long custom and a seemingly ineradicable sentimentalism or something worse, hundreds of lazy, vicious and dangerous characters continue from year to year to be fed by several of the Soup Houses of the city, with no other result than their steady confirmation in vice and their increasing danger to the good citizen in his

property and life, the writer is convinced that there is abundant reason for revolutionising the Institution, and for the belief, that *the same amount of money and labor now expended on it, if spent in other methods and for other provisions for the benefit of the honest and industrious poor,* would accomplish vastly more for their benefit and that of the city at large, and, therefore, that it ought to be at once so employed.

Yours, ONWARD.*

* The writer has been for 25 years an active manager in one of the oldest soup-houses of the city and a careful student of its effects upon the classes receiving its bounty. Eds.

BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS.

MR. CHAS. D. KELLOGG, General Secretary, &c.:

Dear Sir: In the MONTHLY REGISTER for September, Rev. Dr. Wayland concludes his report of the discussion at Saratoga about Building Societies with the following questions:

"Is there any legal requirement limiting the proportion of the value that shall be loaned upon the property? Is there any provision for a regular examination of the affairs of the Society by an expert? Is there any provision in law as to how much a person retiring is entitled to withdraw? All these matters ought to be settled by statute."

To the first question I answer, "No." The common sense of the Committee on Security and the Board of Directors is a better protection to the stockholders, in my opinion, than any limitation that could be enacted by our law makers. This, as a matter of theory. Experience bears out the theory, since Building Societies, in Philadelphia at least, have lost very little by reason of loans on insufficient security, much less in proportion than Savings Funds in States which limit loans to sixty per cent. of assessed value of property.

To the second question I also answer, "No." Nor do I think it at all desirable that there should be an examination by experts. The business of a Building Society is conducted openly, its books are always open for inspection, its stockholders are not very numerous. There is no more reason why the State should appoint an expert to take care of them than for the State to send examiners to private business houses to see that one partner does not cheat another. Experience shows in this matter also, that there is no need for examination by experts. I am a radical, however, on this subject. I don't believe in a paternal government anywhere, least of all in a Republic. All of our "inspections" degenerate into a farce, and I really believe we should have better buildings, insurance companies and banks, if the people were left to look out for themselves and were not deluded into a false sense of security by the supposed inspection and approval of State officers, who, in very many cases, are neglectful or corrupt.

In answer to the third question I have to say that Pennsylvania law provides that a withdrawing stockholder shall receive the amount he has paid in, and not less than six per cent. interest thereon, deducting fines and other charges. Fortunately, most societies—all I think—find no difficulty in complying with this law. It is nevertheless a ridiculous enactment, and ought to be expunged. The State might just as well undertake to declare that a corporation mining coal should declare annual dividends of not less than six per cent. If they earn this interest, net, the societies ought to give it to their withdrawing members. If they do not earn it they ought not to be compelled by law to give a withdrawing partner more than is left in the treasury for other partners. As a matter of fact I do not believe the law could be enforced if the earnings fell short of six per cent., but thus far in the history of Philadelphia societies the question has never amounted to one of practical importance. Dr. Wayland says, "All of these matters ought to be settled by statute." I disagree with this conclusion altogether, for the reasons assigned above. Building societies and their stockholders need no special protection by statute, except from such statute laws as those against usury, which might better be abolished, as they are never operative except in increasing the usury. Of course in writing this I do not pretend to speak for any one except

Yours, very truly, ADDISON B. BURK.

NOTES.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

Industrial Education has taken a forward step in New York City, in the establishment of the Trade Schools, which will open for the season on November 21st, on First avenue, between 67th and 68th streets, under the management of Mr. C. F. Wingate, Mechanical Engineer.

It is the purpose of these schools to make thorough, efficient and practical mechanics, who can earn a living by their trade. Experience has shown that a more thorough education can be given in a Trade School than in a workshop. In a shop there is little or no time for in-

struction in matters of detail and theory. The apprentice or young mechanic learns by observation only, and methods are often acquired which are faulty or wasteful. The manual work in these schools will be conducted in the same manner as in a first-class shop, to accustom the student to the best shop methods. Practical instruction will be given by skilled mechanics in the various departments.

The schools are in three departments:

1—PLUMBING AND SANITARY ENGINEERING.

This course will comprise practical instruction in the manual branches of the trade, and is designed to qualify pupils for the license from the Boards of Health of the cities of New York and Brooklyn, required by the "Act to secure the Registration of Plumbers, and the supervision of plumbing and drainage in New York and Brooklyn." Those entitled to one, will also receive a Diploma from the Schools.

Such Mechanical Drawing as will enable the student to understand and lay out working plans, and also book-keeping, estimating and the taking of quantities will be taught.

Illustrated lectures on the Science of Plumbing and Sanitary Engineering will also be given by competent professors, and there will also be practical talks by some of the leading plumbers of New York.

2—HOUSE, SIGN AND DECORATIVE PAINTING.

This will comprise a general course for beginners, giving through instruction in the trade in all its branches; and special courses for instructing skilled workmen.

The general course deals with plain painting, mixing colors, painting in various colors, fresco painting, polishing and preparing hard wood, lettering, gilding, paper-hanging; and the special courses with decorative fresco painting and preparation of hard woods.

In the general course, instruction will also be given, in free-hand and mechanical drawing, and in book-keeping, without extra charge.

3—SCIENCE AND PRACTICE OF BRICK LAYING.

The scientific course will comprise instruction in mechanical drawing, in laying out plans from architect's drawings, and in the principles governing the strength of walls and the thrust of arches.

The practical course will include mixing mortar and cement, laying of face brick, building solid and hollow walls flues and fire-places, construction of simple, groined and elliptical arches, cutting of brick for arches and mouldings, and the formation of mouldings and cornices.

Lectures will be given during the course of instruction by prominent architects and builders; and will be illustrated by models and drawings.

The charges are designed to cover the actual cost of instruction given, and of materials used. The schools are neither charitable or money making. They are maintained by the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Why cannot similar courses be introduced into Girard College, the House of Refuge, and other institutions where large numbers of boys and young men are gathered?

SANITARY PRECAUTIONS.

A number of Brooklyn gentlemen have formed a Citizens' Sanitary Society, with the object of supplementing the official labors of the Board of Health.

First. To systematically and regularly inspect the sanitary condition of schools, prisons and other public institutions.

Second. To watch and protect the public parks, "the lungs of the community," and add to their attractions and value.

Third. To investigate the sources of food supply and prosecute all dealers in diseased and adulterated articles.

Fourth. To improve the homes of the poor and encourage the erection of a better class of tenements for their use, so as to preserve to the working man his sole capital—health.

Fifth. To extend a knowledge of the sanitary homes of all classes, and show the close relation between their defects and the sickness and death of their inmates.

Sixth. To look after the safety of the numerous seaside resorts, and to check the inclination of ignorant and sordid men to destroy and ruin their health-dealing advantages.

Lastly. To encourage that eternal vigilance which is the price of public health, as of public liberty, and to cry aloud and spare none who threaten the welfare of the community.

Sanitary reform is one of the questions of the hour, and only by practical and speedy effort can the emergency be met and the tide of evil influences which threatens the public health be turned. As all of these objects but one, relate immediately to the welfare of their poor, their consideration bears directly upon the scope of Charity Organization Societies.

A LONDON PICTURE.

Rev. W. B. Wright, of Boston, gives, in a recent letter from London, a touching sketch of a service in a small room, in a crowded dingy court in that city, at which the rich and cultured would gladly have sought admission. A piano and a few flowers and pictures brightened the room, and plain wooden benches held one hundred and fifty poor mothers with babes, boys, girls and men, clad in coarse, neat and patched clothes. The door-keeper was a son of Rev. F. D. Maurice, with his father's "great tender eyes and lovely smiles"; the manager was Octavia Hill, "with the kind word and kinder manner which have won so many to worthy living," and the speaker was George Macdonald.

These poor people who now love this "sweet, strong man," at first refused to go to hear him, until assured that he was not a clergyman and did not wear a white cravat; and to secure a hearing he wore a red one. The service was so simple and earnest that when it was over all felt they had a heavenly Friend and home worth striving to please and reach. After the benediction the hearers thronged the preacher and "were met with the strong tender sympathy one might expect from him."

Mr. Wright pertinently asks: "Do we not over-much keep the most gifted speakers, and the richest of our spiritual attractions for those classes of society which need them, perhaps, least; trusting that the poor and ignorant and the vicious are sufficiently served, when we send them that which would not long keep ourselves in the way of diligent church-going? If we err in this way, is it strange that our religious services (and he might have added, all our efforts at moral and social improvement) among the poor, prove to them less alluring than the beer garden and the rum shop?"

BOOKS RECEIVED.

We have received from the author a copy of "*Working Drawings, and How to Make and Use Them*"; a little Manual designed for night schools, industrial, technical and other schools by Lewis M. Haupt, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Pennsylvania.

It is believed that the knowledge and training imparted by this manual would be of great value to children, rich or poor, and would assist them in becoming qualified for useful occupations in life and tend to prevent them from growing up utterly incompetent to perform any other than the most simple kinds of manual or clerical labor.

This may prove to be the "missing link between theory and practice," making the attempts to co-ordinate the industrial school features with our common school system more feasible. 12mo., 55pp. 60 cents.

From Thos. Whittaker, 2 and 3 Bible House, New York.

The Nurse's Hand-Book. A Manual for those who Visit and Nurse the Sick Poor. By Mrs. H. S. LEONARD, of the London Female Missions. 24mo, cloth, red edge, 70 pp. 40 cents.

An excellent and practical guide, evidently drawn from wide experience and much study. It treats tersely of the care of the sick room, the bed, cleanliness, poultices, dressings, etc., burns, scalds, wounds, bed sores, disinfectants, food and flowers. Also, of the education of the nurse, her outfit, her cases, duties, etc. Its teachings cannot but be valuable to every one called upon to care for the sick, rich or poor.

The District Visitors' Companion. A Handbook of instruction, help and encouragement of those engaged in district visiting. By Rev. W. BOYD CARPENTER. 24mo, cloth, 76pp. 40 cents.

Written from a decidedly religious standpoint, but containing many suggestions of value to Charity Organization Visitors in governing their intercourse with the poor. It depicts the meek but flabby visitor, without nerve or fibre—the dutiful but frigid Visitor—the theological Visitor, who "improves the occasion" by untimely tart homilies—the Visitor full of talk—and the Visitor of good sound sense, with mind and heart in the right places and proportion. It tells how to avoid giving offence, how to do the work, how to treat the sick and what to read to those visited.

ABUSE OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

With reference to industrial schools, Sir Charles Trevelyan recently said that he agreed with the principle that industrial schools were a necessary element of a proper system for the care of the poor, but he wished to point out the rank growth of abuse which had arisen from that good root. He was speaking especially of London, but he was afraid that the same state of things existed largely in Newcastle. The lower portion of the working classes understood these schools, and what was to be got out of them. They found that by neglecting the children, by turning them into the street in a ragged, dirty, half-starved condition, the children were taken up at once, and placed in so-called homes or

industrial schools, where they received what appeared to them to be a first-rate education—far better than the parents could afford. This had now become an established part of our social system, and numbers of the lower classes habitually disposed of their children in that way. Ragged schools greatly contributed to it. The very name "ragged" was actually a sort of point of honor—a kind of ragged school *esprit de corps* had arisen—and children claimed consideration because they were ragged. No man thought of making provision for his wife or children at his death, because he knew that they would be better provided for by the State or the benevolent. He was quite ashamed of Mr. James, M. P. for Gateshead, going to open an "Industrial-Feeding-Day-School." They would not even allow the parents to feed their children.—C. O. Reporter.

MISPLACED BENEVOLENCE.

Concerning recent appeals made through the newspapers for families in distress, by "Personal" advertisements and sensational reportorial recitals, the *Public Ledger* repeats what it has frequently said before by way of warning to the community:—viz., "that Charity is very often wasted on such cases; as it frequently turns out when inquiry is made that the persons who tell the piteous tales are professional beggars, leading idle lives and faring better than industrious people who work. In the most recent case, investigation showed that the 'distressed family' had plenty of clothing and food—that they had been getting aid from Charitable Associations until it was found they had no valid claim—that they vibrated between Philadelphia and other places, living well by these means—that while some of their neighbors say that they (the neighbors) would be glad to have the food and clothing the 'distressed family' treated with contempt, they received in reply to their appeal, a considerable sum of money and a number of articles which, beyond all doubt, will be turned into money by sale.

"The right way in all these cases is to make inquiry before giving, and about the best place to inquire is at the Charity Organization's office in the Ward."

CASES.

Case No. 95. A young woman about 19 years of age, who expected to be shortly confined, appealed for help to one of our ward offices. Upon investigation it was ascertained that she was a stranger in the city, had been betrayed under promise of marriage, had to leave her place at service, and had no friends or living relatives. She was sent to the Philadelphia Hospital where her child was born. Continued care was maintained over the case, visiting the mother during confinement. The mother and baby were taken from the Hospital in due time, and a permanent home found for them both in the family of a friend, where the mother is now maintaining herself on a useful but secluded life, and giving promise of becoming a creditable member of the community. A few weeks since she deposited \$25 of her earnings in a savings' bank.

Case No. 96. The Committee on Legal Claims in one of the Ward Associations which has already secured several disputed pensions—one with over \$1,800 back pay—has forced a family of prosperous children to support an aged father whom they had heartlessly abandoned, and has given legal protection to the oppressed poor in several instances, has now in charge a claim for an inheritance in Russia, to which one of their poor pensioners has fallen heir, inventoried at several hundred thousand dollars. The State Department has already given an opinion that the inheritance will not be affected by the question of expatriation through the heir having been naturalized as a citizen of the United States. Conscientious and competent legal aid would solve many of the problems submitted to us.

Case No. 97. Mrs. H. has a husband who is strong and a good worker with plenty of work, and earns enough for all family requirements. She has, however, been taught to depend on the charity she does not need, but has found so easy to solicit. She now complains, not that she needs help, but that when so much is offered, others get so much more than she does. She wants her share.

Case No. 98. Mrs. Cauzac, an English widow of a French cook, goes about begging with three little children, and usually with the story that she is about to be turned out to the streets. She carries certificates from some French Consuls, who, however, do not seem to help her. She often gives false addresses, but lives in lodging-houses of bad repute in and near Alaska Street. She refuses to have her children provided for away from her; and prefers the easy life of begging, with the freedom of the low lodging-houses, to work. Help given to her, but continues the degradation and helps to work the ruin of the children.

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by W.B.L. to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. III, NO. 2 }
WHOLE NO. 27. }

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 15, 1881.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00 ; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL JANUARY 15TH.

Monday,	December	26,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	January	2,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Wednesday,	January	4,	10 A. M., Women's General Conference.‡
Monday,	January	9,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†At 1420 Chestnut Street.

‡At Y. M. C. A. Building, S. E. corner 15th and Chestnut Streets.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Who find this paragraph marked with a blue pencil are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With them the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask each one to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of thoughtful friends. You can

GET A COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER.

To every one sending us \$5.00, with the address of ten new subscribers, we will send a copy of "THE DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK," by Chas. Loring Brace, one of the most thrilling and instructive books of the time.

BEGGING LETTERS.

Persons receiving Begging Letters are earnestly requested to send them to this Society for investigation.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

- ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
- CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
- ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
- ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
- CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
- ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

THE WHOLE FIELD.

The proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of the Society, substantially as set forth in the REGISTER for November, were adopted on the 5th inst. The greater flexibility thus given to the form of organization, will enable the Society to occupy the whole field of its geographical limits; to district the entire city, and to establish and maintain Associations, with Officers and Superintendents in every district.

The Society has hitherto failed to establish Associations in a few of the Wards, and in some other Wards the objects and methods of Organized Charity have been imperfectly understood and indifferently applied. The good results attained in all the Wards in which the principles of the Society have been carried out, justifies the resolution of the Directors to make vigorous efforts to extend and enlarge their work at the opening of the coming winter. It is the purpose to establish offices in those parts of the City in which heretofore none have existed, and to apply the methods of the Society in all places.

Another possibility under the amended By-Laws, is the uniting of two or more Wards into one Association, under one office, one Superintendent, one Board of Directors and one Corps of Visitors; by such unions there will be a diminution of rents and salaries, and a joining of forces that will be greatly to the advantage of the Society. The restriction of the membership of the Board of Directors to twelve, has been removed, and District Associations may now determine the number of their directors at will.

The restriction of membership of the Assembly has been abolished, and now, all members of the Society, are members of the Assembly.

The Board of Directors of the Society is also authorized to employ and pay Superintendents in any of the Districts. It is believed, that by the judicious exercise of this authority, in Districts comprising an unequal proportion of poor, the Associations may be encouraged, strengthened and aided, in their efforts to apply the principles of Organized Charity to the care of the poor.

In all these undertakings, the earnest and hearty co-operation of the Ward Boards, Lady Visitors and intelligent workers must be secured. The districting of the City by the joining of Wards now organized, and by extending the lines of District Associations into unorganized territory, is to be done by the Board of Directors in consultation with, and to the satisfaction of, the Directors and Visitors of the established Associations. Doubtless some of the Associations may advantageously preserve their present boundaries, and in such cases districts will conform to Ward lines. In most cases, however, there will be gains in economy, strength and discipline, by the union of Wards.

There is at this time no more important work before us than the extension of our lines into all unoccupied territory, and the concentration of our forces about fewer centers. The active managers and Visitors in all parts of the city should promptly give expression to their wishes and views as to proposed districts, so that the Board of Directors and its Committee on District Associations may have the benefit thereof to aid them in the discharge of the new duties imposed by the legislation of the Society.

THE PRINCIPLE OF CHARITABLE CO-OPERATION, among those of diverse views in other matters, was well illustrated at the recent Annual Meeting of our 5th Ward Association on the 23d ult., when the Revs. Father Jordan, of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, T. F. Davies, D.D., of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church, and H. O. Gibbons of the Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church, (together with Miss Anna Hallowell) spoke from the same platform. The Association was warmly congratulated by the speakers on its strengthened work of the past year, and upon the favorable auspices under which the new year was opening. Previous to the meeting, the Kindergarten School, established by the Association in the Griscom Street Soup House, (the use of which has been recently given over to the 5th Ward Association) was opened for inspection.

NEWARK, N. J., is exercised regarding the need of organizing its Charities. At the 78th Annual Meeting of its "Female Charitable Society," held Nov. 30th, an effort was begun to make this venerable Charity the nucleus of a co-operative association of all the public and private benevolence of the city. A goodly gathering of Newark's representative men and women were present, Mr. Frederick Frelinghuysen presiding. After explanatory addresses by Josiah R. Sypher, Esq., and the General Secretary of the Philadelphia Society, a Committee was formed to initiate the movement. The ladies in charge of the excellent Society above named, appreciate the difficulty of making the system adapted to the wants of 78 years ago, suffice for the needs of to-day, and have long been earnest for the application of the principles and methods of co-operative charity. Their efforts now seem about to be crowned with success.

THE HAND BOOK FOR THE FRIENDLY VISITORS of the Indianapolis C. O. Society, is packed full of wise, loving and practicable suggestions, and would be useful in the hands of every charitable worker. It tells Visitors, specifically, how to help in ways better than alms giving; and also how to prevent the need of further help, through savings, industry, economy, and making the home happier; and ends with a string of apt quotations that are like "apples of gold in pictures of silver." Ten cents, remitted to the Society, will procure a copy.

FOUNDINGS.—The Assembly Committee on MEDICAL CHARITIES held an important meeting on the 30th ult., to consider the wisest provision to be made in Philadelphia for Foundlings. About forty persons were present, including Rt. Rev. Bishop Stevens, Messrs. Wm. P. Cresson, Benj. J. Crew, and many of our own Visitors (specially interested in the problem. The discussion was earnest and revealed much study. The efforts of the Committee must result in throwing much light upon a delicate but most vital question.

THE 27TH WARD ASSOCIATION has, under authority from the Directors of the Society, changed its name to the West Philadelphia Association, and has extended its lines so as to include all that part of the City lying west of the River Schuylkill. It has enlarged the membership of its Board of Directors, so as to give a full representation to the 24th Ward. The Office of the District Association is to be located on Market street.

THE NEW YORK CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY placed 3,849 city children in western homes last year at a cost of \$30,863.01; average cost, \$8.23. The average cost of maintaining a child in an Asylum or Almshouse is nearly \$140! Why cannot more of such work be done in Philadelphia?

ORGANIZED CHARITY.

This is the discovery of our age; this is the last analysis of the teachings of Jesus; this is the arena in which future saints and sages may compete together until the saints become sages and the sages saints; this is the apparatus by which alone Human Society can relieve itself of the miseries of poverty. "The poor ye shall always have with you." Certainly. But not necessarily stupid poor, lazy poor, sordid poor, dishonest poor, licentious poor, mischievous poor, disgusting, degraded, drunken, haggard, howling, evil-eyed and foul mouthed poor, whining in the streets for a sixpence, and exchanging it for a glass of whiskey, and holding out the hand for another "for the love of God." Yet this is precisely the species of the poor which the popular doctrine of Christian Charity breeds. * * * Responsibility is the touchstone of that Penury which it is lawful to relieve. The first duty of every creature is to provide for itself. The creature that responds not to this law of the Creator perishes—sooner or later. To save it for a moment from the effects of its own *irresponsibility*, is merely to protract its living death. Whatever saps the sentiment of its personal Responsibility, poisons the fountains of its existence; and "Christian Charity" has been practising this poisoning trade for many centuries.

The wealthy classes, and the clergy holding their purse strings, try to purchase a fictitious heaven by a fictitious beneficence. The so-called "hard-heartedness of the poor toward each other," has always been the protest of human commonsense against the debasing and destructive use of wealth to relieve poverty by annihilating the sentiment of personal responsibility. The honest poor know the value of the law, "He that will not work, neither shall he eat."

The rich who need not work, naturally yield to the temptation to excuse their own eating by providing food for those who will not work. But the only true function of wealth is to provide for and to oversee work; the workers then take care of themselves.

The sense of responsibility vitalizes the universe. Where it is lacking, society falls into anarchy, families into decay, and individuals into wretchedness; the genius frustrates his own career, the father abuses his powers, the mother neglects her offspring, filial piety and civic fealty vanish away, and vice and poverty become the rule instead of the exception.

The root of all morality is responsibility, and its fruit is true religion. Shall benevolence then set itself to cut off the root and spoil the fruit? The Charity of the future will grasp the idea of watering this root of morality to reap the fruit of religion. No good is done to the vicious poor, until they are set with their faces heavenward; nor to the shiftless poor, until they are taught the lessons of a personal independent responsibility. To inspire them with the wish, the will and the knowledge to take care of themselves and their little ones, is the sole business of Christian Charity.

The sentiment of responsibility will not grow except in good society. That does not mean in fashionable high life—which is always bad society—nor does it mean in intercourse with the rich and notorious, with people of leisure and pleasure, statesmen and soldiers, popular writers, orators and artists. It means that really good society, which is everywhere enjoyed among the steady-living and steady-working masses of mankind, where every social virtue is conscripted into service and disciplined by daily toil and family affection.

The sense of responsibility cannot be dinned or driven into the poor by preaching and praying, alms-giving, and commitments to houses of correction. It must be instilled and inspired by sympathy, counsel, judicious assistance and example. Like love, it is not bought nor sold.

Like affectionateness too, it is hereditary and transmissible from generation to generation. As the spaniel is the type and illustration of the descent of a cultivated attachment, so the watchdog is a type and illustration of the stiral growth of responsibility, under the uninterrupted influence of a habit of superintendence. The family servant has disappeared, only because the family itself has lost its homestead. It was the homestead—not the family—that bred its generations of menial caretakers.

Circumstances—not dictation; the unvarying call for comprehended assistance from others—not any calculation of profit or pleasure; these create and foster the growth of responsibility in servants, in masters, in every creature. For it is often strongest and steadiest where unacknowledged and ill-paid; and it reaches its acme of intensity in the heart of the mother of an unconscious babe, or imbecile child, all hope of reward forestalled and barred out forever.

To rouse the dormant sentiment in the irresponsible poor, and to sow thereby the seed of it in the constitution of their unborn offspring, is the noblest task of benevolence and the only hope of the future. The task is set, the task is undertaken by the new Organization of Charities.

—Prof. J. P. Lesley in *Man's Origin and Destiny*.

DISCRIMINATION.

There are two classes of poor, the worthy and the unworthy; or, as they have been distinguished by some one, "the Lord's poor and the devil's poor," "the poor of providence and the poor of improvidence." As a rule, the latter always get whatever the generous have to bestow. If you have a relief society you will find it taken possession of by those who have no claims on its bounty. They crowd the worthy out, and systematically deceive the benevolent. Much money is daily given away to unknown applicants by individuals who have not the leisure to scrutinize their character. It is bestowed in the hope that it may not be misapplied, and yet frequently this liberality is guilty of a double wrong—it encourages the improvident; and, by consuming the means that might have relieved the deserving, robs them of what God ordained as their portion. The only safety lies in rigid, though kindly, examination of all persons who desire assistance. To render this effectual there should be an organization and unification of all charities. The community should be districted, and after proper care, the names enrolled of all who are deserving of help. This course has been pursued in several

cities with marked success. It has found out the worthy who really needed help, and it has exposed the worthless who were following mendicancy as a business. Wherever it has been adopted Pauperism has declined, and the community been purged of its worst and most demoralizing elements. In this connection I am constrained to say, that the failure to keep before us the true end of charity has militated against its efficacy. Discrimination is imperatively demanded here. The design of benevolence is not merely to mitigate present misery, but rather to help the unfortunate permanently to help themselves. Christ, in His ministry, restored to the helpless their sight or their strength, so that they could independently earn their bread; and in so doing He has given us an example to follow. While occasions are frequent when temporary relief is needed, and should be given, philanthropy should seek, above all else, to make the poor self-sustaining. It should seek to awaken feelings of personal dignity and self-respect in their breasts, and encourage them to rely on their own energies. Hence, it should always rather provide work than bread, opportunity than clothing, situations in which to toil rather than institutions in which to rest. Were this kind of discrimination practiced, I am satisfied we would soon rejoice in a more provident and prosperous people.—*From "Isms," by Rev. Dr. G. C. Lorimer.*

The following forcible plea for manual training will encourage, to renewed efforts, those Charity Organization workers everywhere, who are striving to bring such influences to bear upon the children of the depressed and degraded classes, as will put into their hands instruments whereby they can carve their own way to independence. Such disenchantment ensures not only immense benefit to the individual, but to the community:

TRAINING OF THE HAND.

Manipulation is necessary to arrest a sublimation of the mind, and to make up the short-comings of speech. Its most general use is to keep the mind awake and alert. Lectures are apt to go in one ear and out the other. The printed page passes before the eye like a shadow. We set ourselves to think, but we brood. The current of the mind often turns a stagnant pool. The thought returns on itself and passes in smother, as Lord Bacon says. To study without pen in hand is to dream. In manipulation thought passes into act, we use our hands and eyes; we are kept busy adjusting and controlling material objects.

The manipulator stores his mind with conceptions of the senses, with information from the eyes, ears, nose, the finger-tips, the muscles, and the meters of science, those magnified senses. Without these firm roots men are poor sapless things.

Manipulation trains the organs of perception and practice, the eye of Herschel, the thumb of Phidias. Chemistry, botany, mechanics, drawing, afford most effectual gymnastics of manipulation. They make a new man of the clumsiest. Precision, purity, dexterity, grace, are their gifts. The flout which George Herbert transmits to us, that "the German's wit is in his fingers," might well be turned to a plaudit. Some one has characterized the Anglo-Saxons as the race with more nerves in their hands than are in the heads of another race.

The memory is lively, also, as well as strong, in bringing up matters which have been manipulated. The will seems to attach itself specially to them, and give them something of its own activity and freedom. They spring promptly to mind when needed. The difference between just knowing a thing so that you can think it up if you are questioned and have time, and knowing it so that it will come itself without effort, clear and bright, is like the difference between drudgery and genius.

But a greater advantage of manipulation is that it trains the judgment. The reduction of theory to practice cannot be an exercise of mere memory. There is judgment in determining the real object and facts to which the theory will apply.

And finally, the manipulator is in training to become an inventor and a discoverer. The great inventors work, for the most part, from ideas stored in early youth. Their materials must come to the mind without effort, haunt it in spite of effort, as do the lively impressions of youth. So, young Shakespeare stored his fancy with the skies and earth, and waters of Stratford; so Bunyan his, with the sloughs and meadows of Bedford. Nor was it less necessary that Newton should watch the mill-wheels and clocks and dials of Grantham, and that his young brain should teem with the constructions of geometry and the series of universal arithmetic. As the liveliness of youth passes away, the senses cease to store new objects, the forms of the imagination are fixed, the judgment begins to run in the ruts. The morrow ceases to bring fresh woods and pastures new.—*Prof. F. A. March.*

SOCIETY'S WORK.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, was held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 29, 1881, at Association Hall.

The BUSINESS MEETING took place at 7½ o'clock, P. M., Mr. Philip C. Garrett in the Chair, the President and Vice-Presidents being absent. The Annual Report of the Directors was presented and referred to the incoming Board for publication. The proposed amendments to the By-Laws of the Society, as approved by the Directors, were received and referred to a Special Committee of one from each Ward Association for consideration and report to an adjourned meeting of the Society.

The following were elected Directors of the Society to serve for three years, in the place of those whose terms of office expired at this time, viz: Messrs. John H. Atwood, Joshua L. Baily, Rudolph Blankenburg, Henry T. Child, M.D., Nelson F. Evans, Ambrose Smith, Prof. Robert E. Thompson.

The GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING was held at 8 P. M. in the same place; the Ward Associations, and the prominent Charities of the city being well represented in the audience and upon the platform. Mr. Robert N. Willson, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, called the meeting to order and stated that Mayor King, who, as ex-officio President of the Society, had been expected to preside, could not be present, and had sent assurances of deep interest and sympathy; and that in his absence Mr. Joseph Patterson had kindly consented to act as Chairman.

Mr. PATTERSON, in taking the Chair, briefly alluded to the general interest in the great question of wise charitable administration, and of what we owe to the poor and the improvident. The query naturally arises: Are the methods the best that can be applied? Commending the speakers as among those who have given the subject much thought, have had great experience, and the result of whose observation enables them to speak with some authority, he announced a paper upon

ORGANIZED CHARITY—THE BEST METHOD OF PREVENTING PAUPERISM.

BY MRS. JOS. P. MUMFORD.
(Of the 29th Ward Corps of Visitors.)

It is perhaps one of the misfortunes of this Society, that the better its work is done, the more likely is a large, unthinking class of people to say, there exists no need for it; forgetting that its mission is like that of the police force—not merely to catch an offender at his mischief, but by its very existence, to keep evils in check which otherwise would steadily increase in the community. That we are educating chronic beggars into a sense of restraining power, is a matter of daily evidence. An instance or two may illustrate: In one of the Wards of the city lives a family now entering upon a third generation of systematic pauperism. Their method of operation has been mainly through the Sunday Schools and Dorcas Societies of the churches. They were the first applicants for aid at the Ward Office, but soon found the new methods of relief would not serve their turn and went away evidently not well pleased. Finding another church which knew them not, they tried their plans again, until the church, finding out their design, brought the money collected for them, to the Ward Superintendent, and asked him to bestow it upon them in the way he thought best. Judge of their surprise to find themselves thus unexpectedly confronted with the Charity Organization Society! The Visitor having the case in charge, believes them now to be making a feeble effort to reform, and says: "Nothing less than Organized Charity could have urged them to it, and nothing less than its constant moral pressure will prevent their lapse into the old condition." One more instance may illustrate: An elderly man who has lived for many years by writing begging letters, representing himself as in temporary distress, came to a Ward Office and demanded support, since, as he plainly stated, the methods of the Society had cut off all his sources of income, and the least it could do, was to grant him an equivalent in relief. An eloquent tribute to the preventive power of this organization. But aside from the moral prevention of its simple existence, what *active* measures does the Society supply? What can it do for those two great evils which lead most directly to pauperism, drunkenness, and improvidence? For both, we provide what we believe to be the most potent influence on the lives of fallen, suffering humanity, a judicious, loving friend. The results are seen in the Superintendents' Reports which show large savings among the beneficiaries of the Society, and by what we know of individual instances, where waste has been prevented which would inevitably have led to want.

We have done battle also with intemperance, though of all tasks, the

most hopeless. Pledges have been secured, and, followed by unremitting care, have been adhered to. One case is recorded of an intemperate woman, the mother of five little children, who was restrained many months from indulgence, but when her kind friend left town for the summer, her feeble will could not resist temptation, and she fell temporarily into the old habit.

But have we in view no better prevention than this? Is there no vantage ground where we may do battle with the enemy with greater hope of success? We find this opportunity in the children. While the white page of the child's life is still unwritten, we will trace thereon good thoughts, good habits, which shall not be erased to all eternity. To this end we will have the little ones in our Day-Nurseries where their bodies shall be wholesomely fed, and there, perchance, they may learn to love surroundings which are clean and orderly. Thence we will take them to the Kindergarten, where, if their minds have been stunted by an ancestry of depression, we will coax them into activity and intelligence and make each hour a fresh delight in some new thing. Here they will have the three-fold development of the mind, the heart, the hand, all trained unconsciously in the plays, the songs, the work of the Kindergarten. After we have done this, the public schools receive them; to what? the same happy development of mind, and heart, and hand, tending to the well-furnished citizen, the well-rounded life? No; to a set of dry formulas, a burden of hard tasks, to result in nothing but a mental dyspepsia of ill-digested knowledge. Where is the manual labor which shall complement the brain work of the growing child? The State has not yet seen fit to furnish these conditions of development. She allows her youth to grow up in partial or complete idleness, and when that idleness has ripened into vice, she supplies, through her reform and industrial schools, just those preventive measures which earlier applied, might, perhaps, have been the salvation of the man.

The public school seems, for two reasons, to be the best ground for such training: 1st. Because in this country, where no fortunes are secured to families, every lad should be equipped with his hands as well as his head for the emergencies of life.

2d. The best reforms among the lower classes frequently come from emulation of those higher in the social scale. So when the poor laborer sees the son of his well-to-do neighbor educated in use of tools and principles of mechanics, he will feel that to earn daily bread by use of the hands, is honorable toil, and will find a new incitement to labor himself and to urge his children to the same.

To train the children, then, seems to be the best hope we have of the prevention of pauperism. Our hearts are weary as we toil over ground which has lain idle so many years or grown up to weeds, rank and stubborn. Give us the virgin soil; in that there is a new hope, and though we may not see early fruitage, still we know it is the Master's seed and cannot but return some harvest, it may be sixty or a hundred fold.

REV. CHARLES G. AMES then read an abstract of the Annual Report of the Board of Directors. As the Report will doubtless be printed by the incoming Board, we forbear to crowd our columns with it. When issued, it will be sent gratis to all who desire it.

The subject of

"THE NEED AND DUTY OF EVERY COMMUNITY TO ORGANIZE ITS CHARITIES,"

was then announced by the Chair, who called upon

Mr. JOSIAH R. SHPYER to speak in behalf of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Sypher said he would speak of the subjects announced, as effecting the relation of citizens to each other and to the community, and the duty of the municipality to all classes.

First. *Every community must make provision for the support of its own poor.* This is the common law doctrine. Citizens are not relieved of the responsibility by the transfer of their poor to neighboring counties. If paupers go from one county into another, and there become a burden on the public, they are provided for or buried in case of death, not at the expense of the new community into which they stray, but of the one from which they went. The charges are paid by the home authorities, and demands for such claims have always been enforced by the courts of Pennsylvania.

His second point was, "that it is the duty of every community to reduce poverty and pauperism to the minimum." The methods employed to this end may be numerous and may vary widely, but if we would avoid great social danger, they must tend toward reduction. In Philadelphia, notwithstanding the most ample provisions, mendicancy was found to increase, and it was not diminished by the enlargement of the Almshouse or the construction of the House of Correction, or the grants of financial aid to the House of Refuge. Homes of all sorts increased everywhere, and still the cry was for more room. It is self-evident that

in a system which produces such results, there are radical defects; and the remedy is not easy to discover. The question, however, should not stagger us, but have our serious and continued thought until we reach a wise solution.

His third proposition was, that in order to secure this reduction "*it is the duty of the community to organize its charities,*" and in asking assent to this, he proceeded to show that poverty and pauperism will be reduced to a minimum by organization.

What is meant and proposed by "Organized Charity?" When the Society, with its Ward Associations was started, three years ago, it was objected that it was the purpose to establish, in each Ward, new relieving agencies; and the chief opposition came from those who thought that there were already more relieving facilities than were necessary; that to establish others would only aggravate the evil complained of. If such had been the scheme, it was the duty of thoughtful citizens to oppose it. But the conception was an erroneous one. There never was a greater mistake made. The promoters of the movement set their faces resolutely against the idea of the Ward Associations becoming mere relieving agencies. The idea of a Clearing House more nearly expressed the nature of the Ward office. Another difficulty arose from the misuse of words in referring to the work. With the idea of relief, we think of giving fuel, food, and money, and that that constitutes Charity. We content ourselves by giving old clothes, broken victuals, and now and then a little money—things that are the least value to ourselves and the most useless to the recipient.

In the abstract of the Annual Report, reference was made to the case of Lizzie Aaronson, recently tried for infanticide. Upon her trial in Court, it was in evidence that she went from Society to Society and could find no provision for her peculiar needs. At last she went to an intelligence office and endeavored to obtain a place as house-servant; feeling that if she could but gain the ear of some good woman, she could inspire pity and sympathy, and could in that way find a shelter. The gentleman to whom she applied, told her she could not get the employment she desired, but out of pity, gave her a dollar and sent her off. Yet there are at least three institutions in the city with doors wide open to receive and care for such cases. He did not find fault with the gentleman or with the Societies which told the woman that they could not receive her in such an emergency, but he did criticize them for not possessing the knowledge to direct that poor suffering woman, so that with six cents for car fare and intelligent direction, she could have found the needed help. Organized Charity seeks to establish such co-operation between the more than three hundred societies in the city, that each will know the scope and character of the other; and that each will know how to secure admission into every other. We want every citizen to know, that at the Ward Offices, nine out of ten of the persons who ask for aid, will receive what is of more real and permanent value than food and shelter—advice, help and encouragement to make a new effort toward independence, and to secure an honorable livelihood. If the citizen referred to had sent Lizzie Aaronson to the Ward Office, there she would have been directed to the Rosine Home, the State Hospital, or the Protestant Episcopal City Mission, either of which institutions would have admitted her; and the City would have been saved the expense of a Court trial and the community a burning disgrace. Nothing was needed but six cents and intelligent direction. The necessity for intelligent co-operation and organized charity has not yet become impressed upon the minds of the community. He cited this case to prove this, as well as to show what *organized charity* would do, and what *disorganized charity* did do.

The first announced object of the Society for Organizing Charity is to reduce poverty and pauperism, and to ascertain their true causes. This problem will not be solved in one, five, or ten years; but, meanwhile, the Society will not stand still in its efforts to prevent that alms-giving which is indiscriminate, both as to the things given and as to the recipients. What might greatly help one, might injure another. If we give to every one who asks, all our funds would be exhausted by the boldest and least deserving who are the first to ask help, and the really poor and worthy would only be found when the treasury had been emptied.

The great instrument in our work, in securing proper discrimination, is the Women Visitors. All Societies have Visitors. Not long ago, a lady attached to one of the old Charities, told the speaker that she was the Visitor for three Wards and she knew *all the poor in them!* Any Ward Society with less than twenty Visitors, must necessarily do a very poor business there. Our Ward Associations divide their territory into districts of from four to six blocks, and have in each district a Committee of three or more ladies to visit the poor therein. Poor people are much more benefitted by the attentions of one whom they recognize as a neighbor, than by the visit of a stranger; and our desire is to have these

neighborly visits frequent. The ladies can ascertain the wants and needs, not as a lawyer examining a witness, but with womanly tact, by oft repeated visits and by close personal knowledge of individuals and circumstances. If no help is given except with the knowledge of the Visitors, how is it possible to duplicate gifts or fall into indiscriminate benefactions? We do not ask that citizens shall give their benefactions through this Society. What we do ask is, that they shall not give without first ascertaining, at their Ward Office, the circumstances of the person asking help, and letting it be known how far they intend to care for the case. Then when another comes forward to aid the same person, he is protected from useless charity, by learning that Mr. Beforehand already has the case in charge. We also ask the Soup Societies and other charities now in existence, not to grant relief without an inquiry about their cases. This is a duty which belongs to every one.

Early in the history of Organized Charity, the Fuel Savings Society asked us to co-operate in their work, and in many Wards persons were designated by us to act as receivers for such savings. In one Ward, books were opened last May, and when closed in October, forty-five tons of coal had been ordered and paid for by poor people, who three years ago were dependent on the Guardians of the Poor for the fuel. We do not interfere with any good work, but co-operate with every movement to encourage the poor to thrift and industry, and it results that many families now procure their own coal and provisions that a few years since depended upon Charity for such supplies and who, without our aid and oversight, would have continued to spend all their money for liquor.

Another feature of our scheme, is the lifting up into lives of independence those who have fallen low down through the corrupting influences of unwisely administered Charity. We increase the working forces in families, and when we find a man willing to work, we put him to work; but if he can, but will not, we invoke the law and compel him to work at the House of Correction. Every citizen must earn a living for his own family, and the community should not be called upon to support, in vicious idleness, those who are able to work. This is what is implied in the declaration—"By making employment a basis of relief." The aim is to assist the worthy to obtain employment and to compel the indolent able-bodied mendicant, under the discipline of the House of Correction, to work. The Society goes further. It calls upon the municipality, under a wise administration of public affairs, to provide employment for all who shall be thrown upon the public for support. The undertaking requires persistent, thoughtful effort, and when full and intelligent co-operation is attained, when the public recognizes the fact that old clothes and broken victuals are of the *least* consequence in providing for the poor, it will be found, that the purposes and methods of this Society, applied in the administration of Charity, will reduce poverty and pauperism to a minimum; and it follows, as a logical conclusion, that it is the duty of the community to organize its charities."

Rev. W. NEILSON McVICKAR, Rector of the P.E. Church of the Holy Trinity, was the next speaker. After listening to the report just read, he felt somewhat as Mr. Webster felt when asked to deliver the oration at the dedication of Bunker Hill Monument. Turning his eyes to the granite shaft he said: "Gentlemen and ladies, the true orator of the day stands dumb before you." So, after learning that 1,100 families have been rescued from the degradation of pauperism, in addition to all the other work accomplished, he felt that it would be almost an impertinence to add a human voice. He would only do so to emphasize one feature of the work. The title "Organized Charity" seems almost a contradiction in terms. There are two forces brought into connection, which seem at first to be directly opposite and destructive to each other. Charity seems to be untrammelled and unfettered. As poetry is the natural expression of fancy, charity is the natural expression of feeling. At first thought, we say that we cannot organize charity, and if "organization" meant mere mechanism he would not be here to-night. Machine work is always deprecated, and "hand-made" is the term which recommends work in all our stores and workshops. When we think of machinery as attached to charity the thought becomes abhorrent. Charity is one of the fine arts. The great factor is not the mechanism, but it is the human touch after all others have been applied.

The corresponding Society in Boston puts upon the title page of one of its pamphlets: "Wherever any family has fallen so low as to need relief, send to them, at least, one friend—a patient, true, sympathizing, firm friend—to do for them all that a friend can do; to discover and remove the cause of their dependence, and to help them up into independent self-support and self-respect." That is the key-note of the Boston Society, and it is the key-note, also, of this Society; and all its machinery is only to bring to bear this human factor of "a friend," and not by any means for the purpose of crushing out the pauper.

In God's dealings with man, the last touch is always given by a

human factor. Saul was stopped on the road to Damascus as he journeyed, "breathing threatening and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord," and he learned from God himself that he was to become a chosen vessel to bear the Gospel to the Gentiles. Was the work done then? No. The human factor was yet wanting. He was led into Damascus, and there Ananias was told to go to him and say: "Brother Saul."

The speaker recalled the story told by a man who has often spoken from the platforms of this city. He acknowledged that he was once one of the worst slaves of drink, but one evening he attended a temperance meeting and was so impressed by what he heard that after it was over he went to the front and signed the pledge. He had often done so before and failed to keep it, but he meant to try again. The struggle was only begun. The morning came, and he suffered agonies. Every limb and muscle trembled from weakness, and one glass of liquor would so strengthen his nerves. He went to his work, and his employer, who had heard of his again taking the pledge, said to him in a cynical way: "John, you'll break it!" And John felt that it was probable that he would. There he was, a confirmed inebriate, with no one to care whether he overcame his infernal appetite or not. While his mind was filled with hard thoughts, and while he struggled against the fearful fire which raged within him, he heard his name called at the other end of the workshop, and a stranger asked if Mr. Gough was there. He came to where he was and said to him: "I was at the meeting last night and saw you sign the pledge, and I thought I should like to wish you God speed." O, the gospel of that human touch! The friend that says "I've come to help you" is the one who does the most good in the world. It was such a one that saved Mr. Gough, and it is what this Society tries to do to every one who appeals to it—to send to the fallen and miserable one true friend. It seems to say to the unfortunate that all the past has been put aside and all possibilities have been opened to them in their future. It is a noble work to give this moral support and so stand in the breach between the old and the new life. This is after all the great feature in the Society's work, and the 1100 families rescued and lifted into a better life tells the eloquent story of its results. Mr. McVickar had heard the Society criticised for its mechanism, but he was sure that no one can read its report without feeling the injustice of the criticism. God bless the work as it deserves to be blessed!

The Hon. SETH LOW, Mayor-elect of Brooklyn, was introduced as one who had attained eminent success in the study of charitable economy. Mr. Low said: "If any one had stood on the pier in New York, from which the daily steamer for Boston used to start fifty years ago, he would have seen representatives from all the large commercial houses waiting to find some friend or familiar face with whom to intrust letters for business correspondents in the distant city. The postal system of that day was expensive and inadequate, and business men had to take this method of sending their letters with the chances of delay or forgetfulness of the bearers, in preference to entrusting them to the mails. In the interval, postal organization has been at work in all the civilized world, and the result is, that letters are now delivered cheaply and with marvelous dispatch and accuracy. This illustrates what organization can do; the whole system is now marked by economy, dispatch and certainty, throughout the civilized world. If the entire correspondence that passes through the Post-office, in one day, were given for distribution to a single man, it would stagger him. Organization takes out of that mass the letters which belong to every individual and makes immediate delivery. This is what Organized Charity does. It brings prompt help to the needy; and to those who wish to engage in charitable work wisely, the knowledge of those in need of help, and how to aid them indiscriminately. We deal with men and women, and as already said, nothing can change a life but the touch of another's life. Because Organization and Charity seem the opposite of each other, people are apt to think they have nothing to do with each other. There never was a greater mistake. Although seemingly opposed, they are not incongruous.

The world revolves, and the natural tendency of its centrifugal force is to throw us all off into space; but there is another force which holds us down to the earth, and the two forces balance each other perfectly. That balance has to be attained before we can successfully wrestle with our present problem. Bring organization and charity into harmony and the real progress can be made. The public do not yet realize this, and the knowledge of it must be spread by such gatherings as this and by frequent publications. This misunderstanding is one of the most serious obstacles to the work.

If we are simply to support a given number of people at a given expense, the proposition is not a difficult one; but organization seeks to prevent such support by alms as will bring the recipients into a state of perfect helplessness. The difficulty is greatly reduced by the Society's

plan of supplying a Committee of Visitors for every three or four blocks, and it would be still further lessened if one Visitor could be supplied to every three or four families. When you are asked for aid, you have no right to turn your backs if there is no organized method of relief; if there is, send the needy to the Society, but do not imagine that that frees you of all responsibility. There are still plenty of points at which you can work, and you will not need to go far to find them for they are within easy reach of all. There are, perhaps, two or three families you could visit or care for, right in your own neighborhood, and organization gives you the chance to do this, with the assurance that no one is undoing today, the work you did yesterday.

Another difficulty that Charity Organization has to meet, is a practical one. There are many people who desire to give, but do not understand how their gifts should be wisely bestowed. To reach these, we must scatter abroad the information through the press, the platform and the pulpit. We are on the right track, and the truth will prevail if we do not despair.

Our first endeavors should be, to constrain all other Societies to co-operate, and we should not cease our efforts until we succeed. We do not wish to supplant them, but we do desire that they shall work as parts of one harmonious whole, instead of as guerrillas. The public ought to have the right to demand this. There are many methods of working, and sometimes old methods are not the best. If the Managers of the old Societies will not come into harmonious co-operation, we should contest for the control until co-operation is secured.

The churches need to join in what will be of the greatest value to them. We hope to see the day when no one can say of the churches, as a woman in New York is said to have remarked, that "She had not yet got so low as to join a church, as her neighbors did, to get what they could out of it." The churches should be held responsible, and if they cannot co-operate with other bodies, they should at least organize their own system of charitable relief. Church Charity should be lifted into an atmosphere so pure that no one will ever join a church for the loaves and fishes.

The work is full of practical difficulties which require ceaseless labor, but Mr. Low firmly believed that Organized Charity methods are founded on the eternal rock and that its work will stand, while the other systems are built of wood, hay and stubble.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

THE ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING.

The Adjourned Annual Meeting, to hear and act upon the report of the Special Committee of one from each Ward Association, charged with the consideration of the Amended By-Laws, met on Monday evening, Dec. 5th, previous to the meeting of the ASSEMBLY, with Mr. NELSON F. EVANS in the Chair. The Committee reported a unanimous recommendation, that the amendments in question be all adopted; and after full explanation of the bearings of the changes, by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. J. R. Sypher, the By-Laws, as amended, were adopted *seriatim*, and afterwards as a whole, without dissent; and thus become now the governing rules of the Society. The meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING

followed immediately, the President, Mr. PHILIP C. GARRETT, in the Chair. After the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, Dr. CHAS. E. CADWALADER, of the 5th Ward, presented the topic for the evening,

"THE METHODS AND ADVANTAGES OF A CONFERENCE IN THE WORK OF A DISTRICT ASSOCIATION;"

and explained at length the features of such a body as set forth on page 5 of the REGISTER for November. The results of "Conferences" in Boston and in our own 5th Ward, in securing the wisest adjudication and treatment of cases, and the studious co-operation of workers, both in and out of the Ass'n have been such as to warrant an earnest recommendation for their adoption in all branches of the Society.

Miss ANNA HALLOWELL (7th Ward) said that in the Wards in which she had worked, such modes of Conference had been found of very great help. Valuable suggestions often come up in Conference that would otherwise be lost or not thought of.

Rev. CHAS. G. AMES compared the worker in charitable enterprises to the well-trained physician. The more he utilizes the experience of others, the better for himself, and the better for us when we are sick. The value of these Conferences was apparent in these aspects: 1st. In the good understanding promoted among the workers themselves; 2d. The thorough knowledge of the work in hand; and, 3d. The opportunity the Conference gave for bringing forward new friends. The last was very important for the whole work of the City. If the few—compared

with the great body of citizens—who are engaged in this work at present, die, move away or otherwise drop out and others are not stepping in, the reform will die out. The old crude experiments and blunders will then be tried by each new generation. We need to have new scholars continually entering our school if it is to be kept up.

The main business of a Conference is to *study* cases and to focalize the knowledge of the whole company on every problem.

Mr. J. R. SYPHER suggested the danger of over-working the Visitors and Directors by thus adding to their duties; but

Drs. CADWALADER and CHILDS, and Mr. AMES, said the Conference had proved a labor-saving expedient in their Wards, and had increased the interest.

Mrs. FANNY B. AMES said there could be no established principles without facts, and facts come out fully only at the Conference. After a little experience of this way, the old method seemed like groping in the dark. As nobody is of infallible judgment, the best work is done by those who bring their difficulties to consult with others. Mrs. Ames instanced a woman who failed to gain her own support in every work provided for her, and had to be carried along by Charity, till one thought of inquiring "What kind of work did you *ever* do well?" "O, once I used to wind bobbins in a mill." That very work was found for her, and now she was making \$7 a week at it. "Bobbins" of some kind could be found for everybody by putting heads together.

Further discussion followed by Mrs. S. D. Wharton, Mrs. J. F. Unger and others, but our limited space forbids a fuller report.

The By-Laws requiring the ASSEMBLY to be reconstituted at this meeting, the following Officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Philip C. Garrett.

Vice Presidents—Robert N. Willson, Mark Balderston, Thomas M. Seeds.

Recording Secretary—Harold Goodwin.

The Chair arranged for the selection of the Standing Committees (which will be announced in the next REGISTER) and the meeting adjourned.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular meeting of the Conference was held Dec. 7th at 10 A. M. Miss ANNA HALLOWELL in the Chair. Miss SARAH NEWLIN acted as Secretary.

After reading the minutes and reports, a Committee was formed to see that proper notice of the meetings of the Conference was given to each Visitor.

The work of consolidating the Monthly Reports of the several Ward Corps was transferred from the Secretary, by her request, to the Committee of Arrangements; it being understood that all such reports be sent to the Committee (care of the Society's Central Office, 1602 Chestnut St.) on or before the 22d day of each month.

Mrs. J. P. Mumford, of the Committee of Arrangements, reported that as the main object of the Conference is the discussion of cases, the Committee desired the Visitors to bring forward special cases for discussion at the meetings and present them, either in person or in writing.

The subject suggested by the Committee for the present meeting was "What can be done with beggars, and especially, children begging on the streets?"

Miss HANCOCK, Sup't of 6th Ward Ass'n, from her experience, said they should be removed from the streets, and that it could be done, if not legally, at least with the help of the authorities. She frequently had children taken to, and detained at the Station House pending search for the parents and examination into the reasons of the begging. This requires time and patience, and it should always be done by the Superintendent, aided by the Visitor cognizant of the case. It was deprecated that such detention seemed cruel, but it was shown, that to use children for begging purposes was cruelty, both actually and in the eye of the law; and that the rescue from such a life, was the greatest kindness. The child was not the offender, but when it was rescued, the parents should be prosecuted for the cruelty through the Society to Protect Children.

Mrs. W. J. GILLINGHAM advocated an appeal to the police in all cases, and persistence in following up each case to save the child and make the parents realize their obligations.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY, read the law bearing on the subject, and emphasizing the need of persistence, especially as the Mayor offers the fullest co-operation of the Police. Children begging under pretence of selling pencils, etc., are in the same category. Cripples and blind are more difficult to deal with, but the public provision for them is ample, and in proper cases, should be accepted.

Rev. CHAS. G. AMES reminded the Visitors that something of the

government resided in every citizen—the power to help the officers to carry out the laws. There could be no power to detain children, except to secure for them proper care, and that was the only object of the Society.

Mrs. J. F. UNGER felt there had been too much inclination to wash our hands of "unworthy" cases, and trusted that good would result from agitating this subject.

Mrs. WM. PEARSALL cited a case, where, by stating to a child its liability to arrest, it had reported the same to its mother, who thereupon put the child to school for fear of being proceeded against. She thought much might be done by moral suasion in following the children to their homes. After the expression of similar views by Mrs. J. C. Biddle, Mrs. Gulielma Jones, Mrs. R. Blankenburg, and Miss Sarah Newlin,

Mrs. M. T. GAWTHROP of the 15th Ward, reported the prevalence of men begging in that Ward on Sunday evenings, appealing on the ground that the Ward Office was shut. The Conference thought that such annoyances could not be avoided until the organization of the whole city was complete and District Offices were never closed. The public, however, should learn that such cases were *prima facie* frauds and should not be dealt with as matters of sentiment.

Miss SARAH NEWLIN felt the need of a corrected public opinion on this subject. If we could come to regard an arrest as a merciful protection to a child from a life of crime, and as a rescue of an honest suppliant from fatal demoralization, then this old and crying evil of beggary, which has been fostered by mistaken benevolence, would not be so hard to eradicate.

Rev. Mr. AMES suggested that if every Visitor would enlist one male friend to assist her, she would have some one to attend to the more difficult and disagreeable features of the work, and that thus a large and valuable addition would be made to the Society's workers.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY presented the offer of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, to co-operate by opening their Schools to the elder children of families under the Society's care who were shipwrecked by intemperance, by providing Visitors with temperance literature, and by assisting in efforts to reform individuals who were the victims of drink. The offer was gratefully accepted by the Conference with thanks. Full information was promised at the next Conference, as to the location of the schools and other agencies of the Union.

The Conference then adjourned.

OUR WORST QUARTERS.

The Report of the Visitors of the Society in the 4th Ward, (the Five Points of Philadelphia) so well illustrates the fearful results of sentimental alms-giving to persons of whose circumstances the givers are in entire ignorance, that we are impelled to make liberal use of it, in the hope that it may reach and influence some of the kind-hearted people who are the unconscious abettors of the crime so graphically described :

"A body of facts have been accumulated casting light on some of the saddest facts of pauperism, and which must be known before any valuable work can be done here. This is especially true of the regions of St. Mary's, Spafford and Alaska streets.

The wretched life, led by the criminal poor who crowd this region, beggars description. Drunkenness, prostitution, thieving and beggary, go hand in hand. The old live like beasts of prey; the children are born to be trained in wickedness; little boys and girls of twelve and thirteen—often as young as ten, one Visitor believes, are confirmed prostitutes and thieves. Dens of vice are supported by beggary, and every crime nourished by the laxity of public sentiment which allows hideous old men and women to ply their trade throughout the city, obtaining easily the means, not only of living, but of sensual indulgence and beastiality. A stream of these horrible creatures flows all day toward the better parts of the city, asking alms at street-corners and back doors, and procuring abundant supplies by which to keep up their nightly orgies. The food and raiment procured, is seldom used by the persons obtaining it. The food is sold to the low lodging-housekeeper, the clothing to some second-hand dealer in that quarter; and money so procured, as well as that picked up by begging, goes to the gin shop and brothel. A species of lottery, peculiar to this quarter, called "policies," and offered frequently at the drinking shops, fascinates with the allurements of gambling and catches any spare money not otherwise spent.

Men, women and children, huddle together like animals, in filth, often in want, always in wickedness. But as the want is the result and often the cause of wickedness, it becomes the true Charity to turn its chief attention to that aspect of the terrible problem.

What can be done for human creatures sunk so low? Wrong as is the ordinary promiscuous alms-giving, and unavailing for the healing of the miseries of the poor as are the doles, here it becomes almost fellowship

in crime with the miserable recipients of such charity. Would that the brain and heart of this great city would set to work upon the problem! And the possibility of removing this plague-spot depends upon the active co-operation of forces that we have among us—our City Government, our Health Board, and the Charities that already give so much in alms and attention. A City Government which would rigorously enforce law and order, break up the knots of criminals that become dangerous in proportion to their propinquity, and whose congregating here affords the opportunity for so much of the crime of the city; a Health Board that would insist upon the outward cleanliness, which is a vital condition of morality and decency, as well as a check upon the spread of disease; and lastly, a wise co-operation among the charities that now too often work alone and unaided by each other, fumbling in the dark, and too often the victims instead of the helpers. These great forces might do much if brought to act in faithful and harmonious endeavor.

In view of the situation, your Visitors have taken hold of that part of the work which seems to offer some hope of results, viz:—the children. Little can be done for the adults as long as lax public sentiment and want of general interest makes idleness and crime more easy and inviting than thrift and reform.

During the year a Children's Home, Day-Nursery, and Kindergarten, have been established on the corner of St. Mary's street and Cross alley; a Kindergarten in the Church of the Crucifixion opened under the care of Mrs. Van Kirk, and another in the Bedford Street Mission.

The Children's Home is under an excellent Matron, Mrs. Tuttle, and wandering unfriended children, as well as those whose mothers go out to beg or work, find here good care and safe surroundings. In connection with this Home is a Saturday Sewing School and a Sunday School with a class for young men. Over one hundred children from the Ward have been taken into the Country under the auspices of the "Children's Country Week." Treats of trips to the Zoological Gardens and down the Harbor, have been given to a number.

All this is matter of congratulation and hope. Though the way has not opened for rescuing this heathen world that lies at our door, all that can be done for the children is done, with at least some prospect of success.

The Visitors owe many thanks to the Superintendent, Mr. A. K. Long, who has not only attended several of their meetings, but has contributed valuable information founded on his long experience and work in the Ward. He has furthered their efforts on behalf of the children by co-operating in the establishment of the Kindergarten at the Bedford Street Mission.

On behalf of the Women Visitors,
FANNY B. AMES.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, November 1881.

MR. CHAS. D. KELLOGG, General Secretary,

MY DEAR SIR: Since I came here, I have visited the Charity Organization Society, and I am not able to report having learned anything of value, for your adoption, not already in use by your Society; for, so far as I was able to discover, you have not only adopted everything in use here that would be available, but your system is, to my mind, much more thorough and useful for *your* purposes than the one here. In saying this, I do not mean to reflect unfavorably upon the London Society, for it has done, and is now doing, a most valuable work; and, when it is considered that its labors extend over thirty-eight districts, covering a population of about three and a-half millions, it may, perhaps, with the immensity of its work and difficulties to encounter, which you have not, deserve more credit than your Society.

* * * * *

The system as developed here and adopted by us, has now progressed so far in our country, that it is only necessary to keep posted as to each Society's progress and adopt improvements whenever found, to induce all of our large cities to adopt the plan of Charity Organization; for its advantages and usefulness over any other plan or plans known to us, are too apparent to admit of any doubts.

Nothing has given me more pleasure and satisfaction than a visit to some of the Peabody dwellings for the poor, recently erected and in process of erection by the Trustees of the Fund provided for that purpose by Mr. George Peabody.

I have not time to enter into any description of the buildings or result of the noble work designed by Mr. Peabody, more than to say, that so far as I have learned, Mr. Peabody did his work with a very clear knowledge of what he wanted to do, and that his plans are being carried out by the Trustees of the Fund with fidelity and good judgment; and

that the scheme is not only a great success, but one of the most practical and useful forms of benevolence ever devised for the poor. Comfortable rooms, all with windows on a clear open space, every room with an open grate and chimney flue, with laundries, water-closets, water and sinks, are furnished to those whose incomes do not exceed one pound, fifteen shillings a week—about \$8 50 in our money—at the rate of 2s. 9d. to 3s. for one room; 4s. 9d. to 5s. 3d. for two rooms; 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. for three rooms, and 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. for four rooms, English money. In comparing these prices with your own, recollect that the property here costs very much more than with you. * * * * *

WM. SMITH BROWN.

(Mr. Brown is prominently interested in many New York City Charities, and has carefully studied Charity Organization methods with a view to their adoption in that city.)

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

BOSTON, Dec. 1, 1881.

In the October REGISTER we described an effort made in one of our Wards to find homes and work in the country for some of those unable to maintain themselves in town. We give some of the results below. If not altogether encouraging, they may help us or others to do better next time. In one respect our success was greater than we anticipated. We have no difficulty in finding persons in the country towns to co-operate with us, and in no case can we attribute our failure to any lack of energy or interest on the part of our correspondents. Among those for whom it seemed a great gain to go into the country, was a Mrs. C., a widow with three children, two of them at home with her and one at service in Lawrence. She was delighted to go, and the Visitor, having proved her capacity as a laundress, made the necessary arrangements with our Corresponding Committee in B—, comfortable rooms were engaged for her at a low rent, and work for at least five days in the week was assured to her. For her departure from Boston everything was made easy, and she could look forward to having the oldest child at service near her as soon as she should be fairly settled in her new home.

All went well until a sister appeared upon the scene, who, having spent the good wages she had received at service all winter, came to add a new member to our dependent family. This woman persuaded Mrs. C. that to put the two children in some institution for two months, and to go with her to work in a Summer Hotel for that time, would be far better than to leave the pleasures of the city for an indefinite time; and the Visitor represented in vain the return in the autumn to the same state of things as that of the past winter, beside the harm to the children of the long separation.

Then arose the question, would an institution like the Temporary Home take children under such circumstances? and also, how far might a Visitor of the Associated Charities interfere to prevent a mother's getting such help? The whole case, without names being given, was presented to the Managers of the Home, who promptly answered, that sending children into country homes was a work in which they were especially interested; and that in this case it might be done under the most hopeful and natural conditions, so that they should not think of making it easy for the mother to carry out any other plan. At their request Mrs. C.'s name and residence were given to them, and they were desirous to add their influence in favor of the Country Plan to that of the Visitor, when her application should be made to them. Unfortunately, when Mrs. C. applied, some cases of scarlet fever prevented the matron of the Home from seeing her and the case from being farther considered, while a Roman Catholic orphanage gladly received the children, and Mrs. C. and her sister went to the hotel for the season.

Now a new question must present itself, unless the woman should find work for herself for the winter—what and how much shall be done for this family?

The place thus refused by Mrs. C. was then offered to Mrs. G., a widow with four little children, who have had much difficulty in finding work in Boston. She accepted it with gratitude, went and stayed several months, but was then obliged, by ill health, to return. While at B— she had as much work as she could do and nearly supported her family. The lady who visited her there says: "The obstacles to success seem to me to lie in Mrs. G.'s want of health and the youth of her children. I am doubtful whether five people can be maintained by the earnings of one woman. The children wasted food when she was away and the medicines were expensive. I can only say, that if any one should be sent here again, firm health is indispensable and the children should be old enough to go to school."

A third experiment is thus described by our correspondent at M—:

"I decided, after many inquiries, that there was an opening for a man who knew how to care of gardens, lawns, etc. A former resident named C., who wanted to go back with his wife and child, were found out of work and money. I found a man willing to employ him for \$1 per day for the first month, and after that, if he suited, he would give him more work at \$1 25 per day and recommend him to his neighbors. Plenty of work could be had as soon as he was known, provided he would come at once. I sent him a ticket and advised him to come the next morning on trial, leaving his wife and child until he could see what his prospects were. It was only one hour's ride from the city and I promised to send him home if necessary. Several days passed and he did not appear, and his employer grew very impatient. Finally a note came saying he had actually started after five days. He did not appear, however, until after another five days, by which time his place was filled. He said he went to see his wife's relations in an adjoining town, then back to Boston to settle his wife in a new tenement.

He had now lost two chances, and as I could do no more for him, took him back to Boston with me. I was much disappointed, but he was unconcerned, especially as he said he could not live on \$6 a week. He spent the two nights in M. at the hotel, saying he could find no other place; but he had no money for his breakfast and dinner. His furniture in Boston was only half paid for, and he could neither bring it nor leave it. Altogether he was very helpless, and I did not feel that I would benefit the town by locating him there. On the contrary, I seemed to be trying to underbid the more intelligent class of laborers, and introducing an element of which they fortunately know little."

LETTER FROM THE
INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

FRIENDLY VISITORS.

The dependent families in this city numbered 1235. These represent those that have applied for or have received aid during the period between March 1880, and October 31, 1880.

In essaying to put these families under the care of Friendly Visitors, we have met with the following difficulties: Many ladies cannot attend the Weekly Meetings, and the irregularity breaks up the continuity of the work. Cases are too many and require too much time to be considered in any great number at these meetings; oral reports of Visitors take up the time. The following plan has been adopted and promises to be successful in carrying out the idea:

An Executive Committee of the Friendly Visitors meets every week. It first endeavored to secure the names of ladies living over the city, which are entered in a book as Associate Visitors. A family living near any lady, is then assigned to her by circular. She is expected to indicate in an enclosed Postal her acceptance or declension. If she accepts she is enrolled on a "Visitors Book" in two ways: First—By name and address. Second—By street. The families are entered in two books in the same manner. First—Dependant Classes. Second—Street Book. A family is then assigned to a lady living near. A circular, of which the form is appended, is sent, and a postal enclosed, that she may indicate if she accepts the charge, and if her reply is favorable, the family is permanently assigned to her. It is believed that few ladies will refuse to make such visits. The Hand Book explains our idea and guides the action.

FORM OF CIRCULAR.

Mrs. _____

We enclose the name of a family living near you which has come under the care of the Charity Organization Society. It is our wish, wherever any family has fallen so low as to need relief, to send to them at least one friend—a patient, true, sympathizing friend—to do for them all that a friend can do to discover and remove the causes of their dependence, and to help them up into independent self-support and self-respect.

Will you visit this family occasionally, once each week if possible, and inform yourself as to its needs and condition? The results of your visits, the needs or other information, you can report to the Secretary personally at the office, or by letter or telephone.

Full information as to the history and habits of the family can be had at the Central Office. Accompanying this is a copy of our Hand-Book, which more fully explains our idea and work.

Enclosed find a postal. Will you please return it, signifying your decision?

Very sincerely yours,

[Name and Address of Family.]

Nov. 2, 1881.

Secretary.

OSCAR C. McCULLOCH.

THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF LOWELL.

The Associated Charities of Lowell are now fully organized by the choice of the following officers :

President—Rev. H. C. Duganne.

Secretary—Rev. Alfred Evan Johnson.

Registrar—Miss Helen M. Hunt, Office, Room 11, Wyman Building.

A public meeting was held on the evening of Sunday, Nov. 27th, at which addresses were made by Robert Treat Paine, Jr., of Boston, Mayor Greenidge, and others.

District Visitors have been appointed and Conferences are held with gratifying tokens of interest. The Associated Charities already reckons on its list quite a number of churches and charitable societies as ready to co-operate.

FROM THE

LONDON CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

OCTOBER, 20th, 1881.

We gather the following from our last advices from this Society :

The Bristol Board of Guardians are considering the question of erecting new Tramp Wards. It appears that the regulations of the Local Government Board, under which it is provided that the clothing of casual paupers shall be disinfected, and that the casuals shall be bathed on admission to the wards, have at Bath in two years diminished the number of vagrants by upwards of thirty-eight per cent. It is said that casuals go a considerable distance to avoid the Union where these regulations prevail.

CHILDREN'S COUNTRY WEEK.—Referring to the admirable work of the women of Philadelphia in this direction during the past summer, the *C. O. Reporter* asks :

"It would be interesting to know how the Association met a difficulty which has arisen during the trial of a similar experiment in England. Were no complaints received from persons who found to their cost that their proteges had, in spite of superficial investigation, brought with them more than had been expected?"

IMPROVIDENCE.—A correspondent writes thus, in treating of reckless and demoralizing alms-giving :

"We have no right to condemn general improvidence on the part of the poor while we do so little towards helping and encouraging them to become provident. In my opinion no applicant ought, as a rule, to be considered 'adequately' relieved until he or she has been placed in a position, and, if necessary instructed how, to make proper provision for the future. It would be far better for us, I think, to use every effort to make a thousand applicants provident members of society, than to 'deal with' ten times the number in the manner we mostly do now. In the former case we should be cutting at the root of the upas tree of pauperism, whereas we are doing little more than lopping off the topmost branches. I should like to see the Society apply the axe of organization to the root of the tree, not by attempting to sever organization from relief-giving, from which it is practically often inseparable, but by making the promotion of providence its first and most important object."

STARVATION AND RELIEF.—Amelia Butcher, a female tramp, had been kept out of the workhouse, where she plainly belonged, and lived upon out-door doles from the Guardians and the promiscuous alms of the streets. The result was, that last year, during the worst weather, she slept on door-steps and recently died—according to the verdict—of starvation. The *Daily News* prints a letter, from a Charity Organization worker, commenting on the case :

"Speaking as an almoner, for nearly four-and-thirty years, and acting still as such, I do not hesitate to say that Amelia Butcher fell a victim to the petty doles given her in the streets ; that these detained her, if I may so say, in the streets ; and, as the dreadful sequel proved, were insufficient in the end to save her from the death she died. You write as if her wretched appearance in rags, her features blighted with gin, were ground enough to command the doles she craved. Had such a case as hers come before any of our Organizations of Charity, it would at once have been decided as a Poor Law case. Within the walls of the workhouse, she would have been supplied with adequate food, decent clothing, and freed from filth and vermin ; but subjected to the needful restraints which do not permit of rambling aimlessly about all day and gin-drinking. Surely this is not so hard a state of things as the condition in which she was found at the time of her miserable death. So long as the public will give thoughtlessly, however kindly, to the street-beggar, the streets will have plenty of this class, and deaths from starvation and privation will occur. If we are to have outdoor "relief" at all, let it not be of this fitful, impulsive, and thoughtless kind. You condemn it in the case of the professional beggar, but what is all street-begging, with rare exceptions, but professional?"

NOTES.

IRISH PRISONS.*

Ireland has become noted for her admirable prison discipline and reform, which system may be regarded as the best in Europe, and is known as the Crofton system from the name of its author. The system has three stages: 1st. A penal stage of cellular separation continuing eight months, but may be prolonged to nine by misconduct. 2nd. A reformatory stage, where the progressive principle comes into play, of unequal duration according to length of sentence. 3rd. A probationary stage to verify the reformatory action of the preceding discipline.

The first stage is passed at Mountjoy in Dublin. There are two prisons here, cellular of course ; one for male, the other for female prisoners. The male prisoners are employed the first three months in picking oakum, after which they pass to shoemaking, tailoring, matmaking, weaving, etc. During the first four months they get no meat, during the second four they have meat twice a week ; in other respects, the food is plain, but sufficient. Every attention is given to the spiritual wants of the inmates by three chaplains, a Roman Catholic, Church of England, and Presbyterian.

At first the seclusion is absolute, after a while the cell-door is thrown open part of a day, then the whole day. This is felt to be a great privilege, but is withdrawn for any misconduct however slight. The prisoner in this stage are together in chapel, school, and exercise, but no communication is allowed. The second stage is at Spike Island, where nearly all go as "very satisfactory," which is the highest character they can gain at Mountjoy. The women in the Mountjoy Prison during the cellular period have for their work, sewing, knitting, and plaiting coir ; in the progressive stage the industries are tailoring and laundry work. The clothing and shoes for all the convict establishments are made at Mountjoy. The men only are sent to Spike Island ; the women serving their second stage at Mountjoy, but with the same privileges as enjoyed at Spike Island. Practically the classes at Spike Island are four. Merit is measured and attested by marks. The records which they bring from Mountjoy have a great bearing on their rapid promotion here.

The great point here is to induce the prisoner to become an agent in his own reformation ; till this can be done, nothing is done. In this prison system the hope of reaching Lusk, or the last stage, is ever in the prisoner's thoughts and on their tongues, it keeps up heart in them and produces alacrity and cheerfulness at their work. As the rewards are mainly moral, so are the punishments.

The third stage for the man is the Intermediate prison at Lusk, twelve miles from Dublin, so called because it holds a middle place between a Punitive Prison and Full Liberty. The aim here is first, to test the prisoner's reformation, his power of self-control, and his ability to resist temptation. Second, to train him for a considerable period, never less than six months under natural conditions, and to prepare him for full freedom by the enjoyment of partial freedom as a preliminary step. At Lusk the buildings are two in number, each capable of accommodating one hundred prisoners, though the number there is not often more than fifty to one hundred, they have a farm of two hundred acres, on various parts of which the prisoners work, seemingly as busy and happy as bees and doing as much work as any equal number of free men. Here is truly a prison without bars, bolts or encircling walls—truly Lusk is a splendid testimony of the soundness of the great principle of progressive classification as the corner-stone of a reformatory system of prison discipline.

The Golden Bridge Refuge, three miles from Dublin, serves the same purpose for the female prisoners, as Lusk does for the men, and is under the charge of Mrs. Kirwan, a Sister of Charity. The customary period of detention here is sixteen months, but by extra good conduct and industry this may be reduced to ten months. She declares that the three great forces which she employs, are liberty, confidence, and work. Here they are taught house and laundry work, and situations are found for them just as soon as they are discharged from the Refuge.

From Dr. E. C. Wines' "State of Prisons," etc.

PROTRACTED FUNERALS.

There are some stock pictures that are never given up for any new invention, and among these is the burial of a dead child or husband who never seems to get buried. One of these cases recently came up in the Court of Quarter Sessions in Hudson county, New York. A man was brought up who had incautiously victimized some of the members of the Court by soliciting money to pay the funeral expenses of a child. The

facts of the swindle having been proved, the judge was so unsympathizing as to use the following language in addressing the prisoner: "You have been burying this child for the past four or five years, and the Court will interrupt the interment for a time." He accordingly sentenced the man to three years in the State Prison. At the same time, another man who had got small sums on the pretence that he wanted to visit his sick wife in Boston, was sentenced to one year in the State Prison.—*New York Observer*.

"The office of liberality consisteth in giving with judgment."—*Cicero*

At Swansea, in Wales, recently, a woman was convicted of drunkenness and rioting for the 162d time.

"Charitable deeds are oftener owing to caprice, or to the pleasure yielded to the will of the donor, than to considerations of the relief or gratification afforded to the objects of them."—*Seneca*.

A few days since, a man put an end to his life because he could not find employment. After his death, a hotel bill was found in his pocket, the amount of which was \$54, more than half of which was charged under the head of "Bar."

A story comes from Boston that a woman who brought her pail to be filled at a soup-house in that city was, asked how many she had in her family, and replied: "Six—my husband, myself, two dogs and two cats, and please don't put so much pepper in the soup, the dogs don't like it."

Cooking is the only conspicuous part of domestic work that has not yet deserted the home, but it is yielding. The bakery is often called on for bread and pastry, and occasionally for meats. The past warrants the belief that the kitchen might be wholly dispensed with without unsettling the foundations of society. The housekeeper has been released from the mill and the loom wholly, and in no small degree from the well, the cheese press and the washtub without wrecking the social organization. It would probably be perfectly safe to release her from the steak.—*Chicago Times*.

Are three hundred Charitable Associations in a city of the size of Boston, of which one hundred give relief, too many? Not for the generosity of those who give to them. But they may be more than is good for those who rely on them, as certainly as two crutches would be bad for a man who could walk with one. "The life is more than meat;" it is more than eking out existence; it is a school, a probation, a beginning for something better. And by saving an individual from indolent dependency we may save his soul.—*Rev. J. L. Withrow, D.D.*

THE COST OF PAUPERISM.—The town of Lexington in Maine was organized in 1833. It has on its pauper rolls two families that have been supported during all the forty-eight years that have since elapsed. On one of these families, the town has spent \$42,000; and all this has been spent, it is safe to say, with no result save perpetuating misery, degradation, ignorance and vice. If somebody had proposed to spend \$1,000 in setting these people on their legs and making them stand, there would have been a cry of horror at the lavish outlay. People would have shrieked aloud about "Spending money on machinery and on salaries," etc. But it would have been a wise outlay.

What the Charity Organization Society proposes is, to prevent just such cases, and to get people off the pauper rolls as soon as possible. It does *not* aim to spend money on fostering and propitiating pauperism.—*National Baptist*.

A noteworthy example of the good influence of Building Societies in encouraging habits of saving was brought to light recently by the maturing of some Building Society stock of which a poor (or otherwise poor) washerwoman held twelve shares. For nine years and six months she had paid her dues promptly each month, and her account at the close was clear of all fines. The amount of her payments was \$1368, and, at the close of 114 months, she was entitled to \$2400. As she did not draw the money at once, an interest allowance was made to her, but this had to be stopped after a time to compel her to take her money from the Society. She received altogether about \$2450, the foundation of this little fortune having been earned at the washtub, saved by frugality and by means of the Building Society acting as a sort of compulsory saving fund.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETIES.

A pamphlet of 163 pages, bearing this title, and containing the Report on this subject, as presented by the Committee at the

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, at Boston, July 26th, 1881, has been published by the liberality of a friend of the cause; and through the co-operation of our Corresponding Societies and friends in other cities, the first edition of 1000 copies has been entirely disposed of at 25 cents per copy.

The pages having been stereotyped, the cost of a SECOND EDITION, which is being issued, will thereby be reduced to 15 cents per copy in addition to the Report.

The Pamphlet contains valuable papers and addresses by several of the best Charity Organizationists of the country, and full statements of methods and progress from all the United States Charity Organization Societies, and from some of the leading ones in Great Britain.

Copies may be had by applying to the
PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY,
1602 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia.

CAUTION.—The public are cautioned against giving aid or encouragement to Mary Miller, alias Martha or Kate McDevitt, or Swenk. She is about 14 years old, slender and straight, long face, good features, light blue eyes, light brown hair. She gives the same names as those of her mother, and her residence as 2412 Ashburton, or 21st and Wood. Her usual story is that her mother is being ejected for rent, or her father is in the hospital with a broken leg. Also,

Charles Swenk—about 11 years, bright and quick, dark clothes and black, round hat giving his home as near Gray's Ferry Bridge, or at 23d and Kansas.

They are adept frauds and often go together, but evidently do not belong to the same family. They have begged for months in the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Wards, and have made handsomely by their deceptions. Any one taking either or both to our 7th Ward Sup't, 1420 Lombard Street, will be paid for the trouble.

CASES.

Case No. 103—A woman claiming to live in the 14th Ward, was picking up considerable sums in West Philadelphia, among Presbyterians, by a sad story of reverses, and desiring spiritual comfort as well as alms. One lady, touched by her appeal, sent to Rev. Dr. A. of the 14th Ward, an urgent request for prompt and special visitation and help. As Dr. A. believes in Organized Charity, he turned the case at once over to the Ward Sup't, who finds the case a myth and the story a fraud.

Case No. 104—Another collected considerable sums by concocting a story of small-pox—a dead child lay in the house and there was nothing to bury it with. Unmindful that the authorities would at once provide for such a case, money was freely given, and with the promptitude born of desire to get rid of a caller from an abode of small-pox as quickly as possible; and no one evinced any anxiety to call upon the mourning family. The case being referred to our Ward Association, and looked up, was found to have no existence in fact.

Case No. 105—A drover arrived in Philadelphia from Chicago with several car loads of cattle; he had made a bargain with the owner of the cattle to receive \$55. and a return pass to Chicago, but in the middle of the night the owner took french leave and left the drover penniless. He applied to a resident of the 6th Ward, who sent him to the Ward House, where he was maintained until the Sup't—after applying to several sources—obtained a ticket to Chicago for \$3.50, through the Union Benevolent Association. This case cost the Society very little in money, but a great deal in time and labor.

Case No. 106—An insane woman strayed into the rooms of the Women's Christian Association, late Saturday afternoon. On application to the Association in their Ward, the Superintendent took the woman off their hands and placed her in kind keeping until Monday; but the woman soon became restless and insisted on going to New Jersey, and as she could not be restrained without violence, her hosts had to let her go. The Police were appealed to, but could not interfere. She wandered as far as Camden and then returned to the Women's Christian Association, which again delivered her to the Ward House. It was then discovered that she was a resident of Washington, D. C., and therefore could not be admitted to any of our local public institutions without charge. Her family were searched out and proved to be unable to provide for her. Other friends, however, were found in Washington, through whose influence she received transportation to that city, where she was placed in an Asylum. The labor involved is but faintly indicated in this brief recital, but the result could not have been effected by any other existing agency than Organized Charity.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail.	
Large 12 mo.; 468 pages; cloth.	\$1.25		1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. AMES. 8 vo. pamphlet; 10 pages; per 100			
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]	3.00		3.00
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8 vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.	.10		.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GREEN. 12 mo.; paper; 79 pp.	.25		.27
MANUAL FOR VISITORS, AND CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY TO THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OF PHILA. 12 mo.; 217 pp.; cloth; (with Chart, if desired.)	.50		.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8 vo., over 300.	.50		.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER,	.60		.65

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by Will to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of..... Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. III, NO. 3.
WHOLE NO. 28.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 18, 1882.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors —

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL FEBRUARY 15TH.

Monday, January	16,	8 P. M., Assembly.†
Monday, January	23,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Wednesday, February	1,	10 A. M., Women's General Conference.‡
Monday, February	6,	8 P. M., Assembly.
Monday, February	13,	8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†At 1420 Chestnut Street.

‡At Y. M. C. A. Building, S. E. corner 15th and Chestnut Streets.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Joshua L. Baily (Pres.)	A. C. Deakynne, M.D.	Ambrose Smith.
Jas. S. Whitney (Vice-Pres.)	Benj. F. Dennison.	Josiah R. Sypher.
Rev. Chas. G. Ames.	Nelson F. Evans.	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph. D.
Rudolph Blankenburg.	Philip C. Garrett.	Jos. K. Wheeler.
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.	Thos. S. Harrison.	Albert B. Williams.
H. T. Child, M.D.	Samuel Huston.	Robt. N. Willson.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Who find this paragraph marked with a blue pencil are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With them the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask each one to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of thoughtful friends. You can

GET A COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER.

To every one sending us \$5.00, with the address of ten new subscribers, we will send a copy of "THE DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK," by Chas. Loring Brace, one of the most thrilling and instructive books of the time.

BEGGING LETTERS.

Persons receiving Begging Letters are earnestly requested to send them to this Society for investigation.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

PERSONAL INTERCOURSE.

The immense superiority of this factor, in dealing with the poor, is powerfully illustrated in the work of two noble New York women, who are following the lines laid down by Miss Octavia Hill, in London, and who are financially backed by two philanthropic men of means. Mrs. Miles and Miss Olivia H. Dorr undertook to reform the homes and lives of one of the worst tenement quarters in New York. In January 1st, 1881, a lease was taken of Nos. 37 and 39 Cherry Street, known as Gotham Court, containing two stores and rooms for 140 families. The Court was the worst in the 4th Ward, a district more densely peopled than any other in the civilized world (some squares containing 750 human beings to the acre, while the densest part of London contains less than 300); and these buildings were noted as the abode of criminals and vicious persons of the worst description.

The buildings were in a dreadful condition, robbed of water pipes, shutters, &c.; ashes and garbage piled in the corners of the rooms, walls slimy with filth, and the cellars choked with refuse. No spot could be found in which this system of reform could be more thoroughly tested.

At the date named, there were but 53 tenants, paying an average of \$3.75 a month, and two stores rented at \$15 a month. The rules of cleanliness and decency were at first enforced with much difficulty, but with steady improvement. Quite a sum was expended in improving the dwellings, and laundries, for the use of tenants, were added. But the bad reputation of the Court at first prevented many from availing themselves of the improved quarters, even at low rents. One store was given up, and long remained vacant, although large offers were made for it by liquor dealers; still the receipts more than paid the rent.

The second year shows the fruitage of patient work. On November 1, 1881, the tenants had increased from 53 to 118 families, both stores were rented, and the enterprise was paying largely. But the great gain is the physical and moral one. The tenants are now peaceable and neatly clad, ashes and garbage are carefully placed in proper receptacles, and the halls are scrupulously clean. House B., formerly called the House of Blazes, is now the quietest in the Court; but little liquor is used, and the practice of sending children for it is entirely stopped. The bands of young ruffians have disappeared, and the young children have been toned up to purer lives by free use of the laundry tubs as baths for them.

The hygienic improvement, also, is immense. "During last summer, while children all around were dying like flies, no death occurred in

Gotham Court, and there was scarcely a case of serious illness, out of a total of not far from 200 children."

These material results are the necessary stepping stones to moral and religious ones, for, as the report says, "until something has been accomplished in the reformation of the home, the seed will fall on barren ground." It also quotes the opinion of Ellice Hopkins, of London, that preaching religion and morality is but love's labor lost, until some measure of social reform has been effected. "It is mockery to enforce chastity and decent habits, and reverence for womanhood, on those who are huddled up like pigs in one room every night." This conviction is also enforced by the experience of the workers in the noble mission operating in our own 4th Ward of Philadelphia.

Alms, provisions and clothing, supplied to occupants of such quarters as Gotham Court was in 1879, or to a like class who solicit gifts at society offices, on the streets or at the house doors of Philadelphia, can only foster and intensify the horrible degradation in which they wilfully live, while "not alms but a friend," may work a radical cure, moral and physical, in the most abandoned cases.

SUGGESTION TO DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Each Ward or District Association needs to create for itself a large and intelligent local constituency. It should, therefore, take active measures for extending among the best people, within its territory, a knowledge of the principles, methods and benefits of Organized Charity.

How shall this be done? One measure, at least, may be safely and strongly recommended: Let the district be canvassed for annual memberships; and, as an inducement to such membership, let the canvasser not only supply the households with the Association's tickets, but let him offer to send THE MONTHLY REGISTER to each subscriber. The paper would be furnished, for this purpose, to the District Associations at cost, and would be sent directly to the subscribers from the office of publication.

Advantages: The District Association would increase the number of its friends and supporters; some of the subscribers would ultimately become larger contributors or active workers, and public opinion would be gradually enlightened.

The District Association in the 13th Ward has adopted the plan of giving THE REGISTER to all who subscribe \$5 or more; our proposition is that it be extended to all annual members. And the proposition holds good equally, and offers precisely the same advantages, to the Charity Organizations in other cities.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION WOOD YARD.

The objects of this establishment do not seem to be well understood by the general public. They are:

- 1st, To give employment to needy men.
- 2d, To apply a labor-test to vagrants and tramps.
- 3d, To prove the worthiness and ability of men who apply for our help to secure permanent situations for them.

The aim of its managers is to make the Yard self-sustaining, and to do this they must have the patronage of the public. By buying wood of them, purchasers both get the full worth of their money in good wood, and help deserving men to procure much needed work.

There is a large quantity of wood in the Yard awaiting buyers, and this beneficent work must suspend unless the wood is sold as fast as produced. Kindling wood is sold at \$13.00 per cord; \$6.50, $\frac{1}{2}$ cord; \$3.25, $\frac{1}{4}$ cord, and \$1.00 for three well packed large boxes, delivered at the house.

CAUTION.

The Engarde family, who have for years existed by writing begging-letters to prominent people in Philadelphia and elsewhere, and whose letter to Ralph Waldo Emerson, sent to us for investigation, was published in the REGISTER for July last; after a brief subsidence, have re-entered business under the name of Gray, and are trying to bleed their old victims and some new ones afresh by similar appeals. The former name, "M. C. Engarde," is now changed to "M. C. Gray," but still hails from the old haunts at 1529 Alder Street. Our readers will please accept notice and be on their guard.

The issue of this number of the REGISTER has been delayed in order to include a report of the Assembly meeting of the 16th inst., which was postponed from the 2d inst., as the latter day was a public holiday.

COLD PIECES AND OLD CLOTHES.—The ubiquitous and sharp-sighted newspaper men confirm our oft-repeated statements that the whole city is traversed by a brigade of collectors of cold victuals, who have their districts or routes duly assigned to them by dealers in the article or by their agents. The contents of the baskets are retailed in platefuls, at different prices, at "cook shops," the proprietors of which run lodging houses and grogeries, and pay the basket-brigade in checks for drink and lodgings, getting a big profit at both ends of their business. A reporter of the Philadelphia Times recently found these lodging houses filled with men and women, in the very lowest stage of degradation, sleeping eight and ten in one room, color and sex mixed promiscuously. It seems hard to deny cold victuals, but it is indisputable that this heedless giving is the support of a most wicked and demoralizing traffic, and an active encouragement to the most beastly orgies in this city. Old clothes, given to entire strangers, do the same vicious office, being almost invariably sold for means to buy liquor, before the day closes. Let those who doubt these statements pay a careful visit to the South Street old clothes' shops, or to Mrs. Hust's or Pat O'Briens "Hash Shops" on St. Mary Street, and they would, hereafter, as soon take a hand in a burglary as to aid in supporting these dens by giving food and clothes to applicants of whose real circumstances they know nothing.

CO-OPERATIVE SCHEMES.—The Philadelphia Industrial Co-operative Society reports a membership of 978 persons, and continual accessions. Its operations are carried on in the north-eastern section of the city, the main store and offices being 2337 Frankford Avenue. During the last quarter, the sales aggregated more than \$40,000, and \$1,246 was paid in dividends to the members, each receiving in proportion to the amount of his purchases. The manner of doing business is substantially the English plan, which has proved so signally advantageous amongst the industrial population of that country. In numerous instances a marked elevation of morals and of general intelligence has followed the establishment of these Societies. The "Rochdale Pioneers" has been, for several years past, eminent, not only for the amount of its business, but for its educational work among its members.

CARE OF DESERTED INFANTS.—The careful attention of our readers is called to the article with this caption, in another column. It is from the pen of one who has given much thought and study to the subject, and has had much practical experience in dealing with these helpless waifs. We are glad to learn that there is a strong probability of the recommendations being adopted by the majority of those who have foundlings thrust upon their care, and that the new "Sheltering Arms," which Bishop Stevens has recently inaugurated, will be governed upon the same general principles, and will become a nucleus of such similar provision, as may be hereafter required in this department of charitable work.

SAMPLE COPIES.—The friends of the REGISTER can assist materially in extending its subscription list by sending to us, on a postal card, the address of such persons, as in their opinion are, or should be, interested in the departments of social science and reform advocated by this paper. Sample copies will be promptly and cheerfully sent to all such addresses. Will every reader thus help to make the REGISTER self-supporting?

Philadelphia subscribers to the REGISTER may renew their subscriptions at their own Ward or District offices.

THE PUBLIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

This body, an outgrowth of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, held its first annual meeting at the rooms of the latter Society, on the 16th inst., Charles Godfrey Leland presiding. The object of the Association is to promote the efficiency, and to perfect the system of education in this city, by awakening attention to its errors and defects; by securing needed legislation; by becoming a medium of public opinion, and by taking measures to bring under instructions the thousands of children now growing up in ignorance. Miss Charlotte Pendleton presented the report of the Executive Committee, which claims the introduction of sewing into the Normal School course of studies as one of the most apparent results of the Society's labors. A sub-committee is now in conference with the Board of Education, in relation to the employment of a chief and assistant public school superintendent, one of the main objects of the Society. Another fault ascribed to the present system is the inadequacy of the school laws. The method of electing School Directors is condemned as being the cause of the low estimate in which the office is held. The extended use of the kindergarten system and, above all, instruction in manual labor, the use of tools, etc., are

advocated. Attention is called to the need of improving the ventilation, light, drainage and general hygiene of the schools; and, in connection with an earnest plea for the increased pay and higher qualifications of teachers, it is stated that those of Philadelphia receive lower compensation than is given in any other city of the first class. The last suggestion made by the Executive Committee is that the compulsory school laws now in existence, together with others yet to be enacted, which will best tend to make education universal, shall be rigidly enforced. The SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY takes an active interest in this portion of the work. The importance of thoroughly canvassing the city to discover the number of children growing up in ignorance, and the reasons why they are deprived of educational facilities, is strongly presented. The report will shortly be printed and will be worthy of careful study.

Miss Pendleton, Mrs. Robert H. Hare and Professor George F. Barker were re-elected members of the Executive Committee, the other members holding over being Mr. R. E. Pattison, Miss C. K. Meredith, Mr. Chas. G. Leland, Mr. J. S. Whitney, Miss Irwin and Mr. E. Coppee Mitchell. A. M. Spangler, of the Board of Managers of the Spring Garden Institute, briefly described the successful course of instruction in industrial art now in progress at the Institute, and invited the Society to visit the evening classes which meet there. He also suggested the propriety of inviting F. W. Parker, first Superintendent of the Quincy Schools, to lecture in this city. The Society adopted the suggestion and accepted the use of Spring Garden Institute Hall, tendered by Mr. Spangler for the occasion.

SAVAGE OLD ENGLISH LAW.

The modern tramp is rather given to complaining of the hardness of his lot; and some recent legislation has been thought rather harsh in its bearing on these "gentlemen at large." But the tramp laws of our time are tenderness itself, compared with an act of Parliament in the days of Henry VIII. After providing that the *helpless* poor should be a charge on the parishes or municipalities, "so that none go openly begging;" also, that every "sturdy vagabond be kept in continual labor," and all poor children be put to service; the Statute continues:

"A valiant beggar, or sturdy vagabond shall, at the first time, be whipped and sent to the place where he was born, or last dwelt for the space of three years, there to get his living; and if he continues his roguish life, he shall have the upper part of the gristle of his right ear cut off; and if, after that, he be taken wandering in idleness, or does not apply to his labor, or is not in service with any master, he shall be adjudged and executed as a felon."

SAVINGS' BANKS.

The following figures show that Pennsylvania is very low on the list of deposits in the Savings' Banks of the State; even behind "little Rhody." Her Building Associations, of course, account for a large part of the shortage; but, as the capital of these is estimated by the best informed to aggregate only about \$60,000,000, it will be seen that much remains yet to be done in encouraging provident habits, and in supplying facilities therefor.

The following were the deposits in the Savings' Banks of the seven States showing the largest deposits of this nature, at the close of the years named, except those for 1880, which were the deposits on May 31st:

	1860.	1870.	1880.
New York, - - -	\$67,440,397	\$230,749,408	\$318,147,888
Massachusetts, - - -	45,054,236	135,745,097	199,307,095
Connecticut, - - -	19,377,670	55,297,705	73,549,860
California, - - -	†1,000,000	36,555,909	44,225,296
Rhode Island, - - -	9,163,760	30,708,501	39,188,748
Pennsylvania, - - -	†8,000,000	†15,000,000	30,389,736
New Hampshire, - - -	5,590,652	21,472,120	28,204,306

These figures, for 1880, show the following deposits *per capita* of the population (omitting cents):—

Rhode Island, \$142; Connecticut, \$118; Massachusetts, \$112; New Hampshire, \$81; New York, \$63; California, \$51.

In Pennsylvania, the deposits *per capita* appears to be only \$7; or, including amounts invested in Building Associations, \$21!

* The Auditor General reports that taxes were paid, in 1881, upon \$35,000,000, by 1671 Building Associations. The whole number in the State is about 2,000, who at the same ratio would have an aggregate capital of \$12,000,000. But as many Associations have matured shares upon which no tax is paid, \$30,000,000 would seem to be a fair estimate.

† Estimated. All the other figures are from official sources.

CARE OF DESERTED INFANTS.

The subject of properly caring for illegitimate children has for a long time engaged the attention of thoughtful minds.

Among the many plans hitherto employed to provide for this class of children are:

1. The no system plan.
2. The Almshouse system.
3. The asylum plan—pure and simple.
4. The "placing-out" or "family" plan.
5. The combination of the "asylum" with the "placing-out" system.

I—THE NO-SYSTEM PLAN.

Of this it will be hardly necessary to speak at any length, as it is adopted generally in the county districts and small towns where the number of this class of children in any one district is very small; and for each individual case, some especial provision is made when the exigency arises. When the small number of foundlings which are cared for in the only public institution devoted to such purposes in this city is compared with that which finds shelter in the four large asylums in New York city—supposing that the two cities represent about the same class of people—we are driven to the conclusion that a very large proportion of these unfortunates are provided for in this city under the "no system" plan, with all its attendant dangers and sufferings.

II—THE ALMSHOUSE PLAN.

In cities and towns of larger size the number of illegitimate children assumes large proportions, and it becomes absolutely necessary to make some adequate provision for them; and the almshouse of the town, the receptacle of the outcasts of humanity, of the pauper class of all ages, becomes generally the "the last resting place" of these poor little waifs. Of the mortality existing in these institutions, it is also exceedingly difficult to get exact information. In New York State so great were the abuses in these institutions, so fearful the mortality, so great the neglect and cruelty practiced upon this class of inmates, that a law was passed prohibiting the placing of children under two years of age in any almshouse in the State. F. B. Sanborn, the Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Charities, says that previous to the year 1857, under the almshouse system, "the mortality of these infants reached the large proportion of 80 out of 100." Mr. C. Loring Brace, author of the "Dangerous Classes of New York," one of the best authorities on this subject, says: "The treatment of these poor, helpless infants in our public institutions, is one of the saddest chapters in the history of human wickedness." So great have also become these abuses in our own State that the State Board of Charities during the past year framed a law, now pending in our Legislature, which prohibits any child under — years being placed in any almshouse, either to be nursed as an infant by pauper nurses or, if older, to be subjected to the contaminating influences of a pauper community. In the matter of providing for foundlings, Philadelphia has not yet cast off her swaddling clothes of provincialism, and notwithstanding it is the second city of the Union, with nearly a million of inhabitants, it adheres to the practice of the last century, and continues to subject those who can make no defence for themselves, no outcry, no protest or remonstrance, to a decree almost as fatal as that of Herod. Of the mortality existing among the foundlings at the Philadelphia Almshouse, in the absence of any published report, I have only to receive the statement of the President of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, who informed the writer that all those who were not taken away by their parents or adopted by others died within six months—none lived. An examination of the records of the founding department confirmed this statement. During the year, 1880, there were received into the Almshouse 66 infants of this class; 30 of these were removed within six months of the date of their admission, and all the rest died—a mortality of 100 per cent. of those who remained in the Almshouse for a period exceeding six months; or a mortality of 54.5 of the whole number. Of the fate of those who were removed within the six months we know nothing.

III—THE ASYLUM PLAN.

We have now to speak of a greatly improved system—one considerably in advance of the Almshouse plan. It is reasonable to suppose that in an institution especially constructed for the care of children, furnished with all the appliances requisite, where the wants and diseases of very young children are made the object of special study, the rate of mortality would be considerably lessened. This we find to be the case. The famous London Foundling Hospital during the first twenty years of its existence received into its wards 14,934 children, of whom 4400 lived long enough to be apprenticed, although the age given for their apprenticeship is not furnished. In the equally famous Paris Foundling

Hospital in the same length of time were received 48,525 foundlings, and showing a death rate of 56 per cent. In 1841 this hospital, with the experience gained, changed its mode of operations, moved up into the fourth order and adopted the "placing-out" or "family" system, with a wonderful decrease in its mortality rate, of which we will speak again in some of the details of institutions of that kind.

IV—THE "PLACING-OUT" OR "FAMILY" PLAN.

It was stated above that the Paris Foundling Hospital in the year 1841 changed its plan of operations, abandoning the asylum system and adopting what is now termed the "placing-out" or "family" plan. This hospital is now carried on under a public department called Les Services des Enfants Assistés. This Bureau deals with the whole class of abandoned, outcast and destitute infants. Instead of keeping these children in an asylum, this office at once dispatches them to nurses already selected in the country. The whole matter is thoroughly organized. There are agents to forward the nurses and children; inspectors to select nurses and to look after the infants; medical officers to investigate the condition of both children and nurses. As the children advance in years they are sent to school.

The mortality rate under the care of this bureau is but 30 per cent.

V—THE ASYLUM AND "PLACING-OUT" SYSTEMS COMBINED.

While the "placing-out" or "family" plan has advantages and results vastly superior to any of the preceding in promoting the health and comfort of these foundlings, and also in reducing largely the rate of mortality, it is liable to some objections, and is only perfectly successful when every infant finds an unexceptionable home.

But every sick child, when first received, needs immediate skilful medical treatment and nursing. Hence a combination of these two systems, has led to the result of bringing the mortality rate down to about 20 per cent., as tested in two or three large institutions in New York City.

Now, in caring for these infants, an enlightened philanthropy will discover there are other considerations equally important with that of saving life. Questions of a grave moral character present themselves which must be met and properly solved, before we are fully prepared to deal with a problem so delicate and far reaching. In the first place, we would thus state our belief, that no plan which aims to provide for these foundlings, which does not contain, as an essential feature of its operations, the present and future well-being of the misjudged and unfortunate mother, will be found to fulfil all the indications and requirements of the case.

With the hope of ridding this problem, having for its object the disposal of about 2,000 foundlings annually, of some of its difficulties, the following suggestions are offered which are believed to be based upon sound principles of action, and have at least the merit of being easily put in practice. It is proposed to secure—

1. A Bureau for the care of foundlings and deserted infants.
2. A Hospital Building centrally and healthfully located, to be used, both as a receiving depot for all the infants claiming the care of the Bureau, and as a Hospital for the treatment of sick children, under the inspection of a resident physician.
3. The establishment of a number of homes in private families in different parts of the city where one, two or three children can be comfortably cared for.
4. The organization of a Board of Lady Managers, who shall have charge of the internal management of the Hospital and the selection of the private homes indicated in No. 3, and the general oversight of the workings of the Bureau.
5. The organization of a Corps of Lady Visitors, whose duty it shall be to visit and carefully inspect the condition of the infants placed in these private homes, as well as that of the Homes themselves. It shall also be the duty of these ladies to place themselves in communication with the mothers of these infants; to foster as far as practicable the maternal instinct; to extend to these unfortunate women that practical sympathy and kind advice too often denied them; to provide them with places where they can be self-sustaining; to shield them from further temptation, and to restore them, as promptly as possible, to a virtuous position in life.
6. The selection of an Advisory Board of Gentlemen, who will extend to the Lady Managers, such advice in matters of importance which may arise from time to time, as may be needed in the general management of the affairs of the Bureau.

For the further explanation of this skeleton outline, it is needful to bear in mind

1. That the idea of an establishment of an *Institutional Home for Foundlings*, in this city, is not entertained; but the central thought runs through the whole programme of placing these little innocents, as promptly as possible, within the sacred precincts of a Christian home, with an avenue open to their ultimate incorporation in the body politic, having had the previous beneficent oversight of interested personal friends.

2. It will be observed, that the *practical management of the details of the plan, is entrusted entirely to ladies* whose tact and skill in such matters pre-eminently qualify them for such a service.

3. It is designed, that every infant for whom application is made for admission, *shall be presented for inspection at the Hospital*. If its physical condition is such, that it may be safely entrusted to outside care, it shall be so consigned. If it requires medical treatment, it is to be retained until health is restored or death takes place.

4. It is further contemplated, that the Lady Visitors *shall inspect the women and the condition of the children as to health and cleanliness at least once a week*; and that the women who have them in charge, shall *report themselves at the Hospital, in company with the infants under their care, once a month*, in order that the physical health of the infants may be carefully inspected by the physician in charge.

5. It is also contemplated, that the Lady Visitors shall place themselves in *communication with Committees of Ladies*, both in the city and country, for the purpose of finding homes for both mother and child, either separately or together, as the case requires.

The above is intended to be simply an outline. It is rather an expression of a system rather than an attempt to supply the details which must be left to the intelligence of those who have the matter in charge.

The chief merit of the plan above enunciated, is that we bring to bear upon a problem which has hitherto defied solution—the warm hearts and active sympathy of women. We withdraw from institutional training and machine charity a large number of children whose chances of restoration to useful lives are infinitely greater. We lessen greatly the temptation to infanticide or to heartless desertion of infants. We restore many women to lives of usefulness and virtue, who, under different circumstances, and without such help and sympathy as are afforded under this arrangement, would hopelessly sink into vice and degradation.

B. J. C.

TRAMPS IN AN ENGLISH ALMS HOUSE.

Octave Thanet relates in "Good Company" what she saw in the alms-house at Wolverhampton:

"Said Mrs. Mead, 'Let me show you our method with vagrants.'"

She led us through a number of passages, of which I only recall whitewash and a faint smell of lime, and stopped before some iron doors with a square hole above, through which we could see a small cell, literally no better, with a grating opening out on the yard. The cell floor was of concrete, the walls of stone. A kind of bunk for bed and a heap of rough stone to be broken, were the cell's furniture.

Vagrants applying for relief are locked up in these cells, and not allowed to depart until a certain amount of stone has been broken to the requisite fineness. A wire arrangement over the grating insures that the cunning tramp shall not slight his work. "Vagrants are first bathed when sent here," said our conductor; "we do not allow them any communication with each other."

She showed us the bath-rooms, which were very complete; also a room where their rags of clothes were disinfected. In one of the cells we passed a rough-looking man who was pounding vigorously at his heap of stone; he neither turned nor spoke to us. Mrs. Mead said that these undesirable visitors usually came only for the night. They received a bath and a small portion of porridge and bread, and in the morning they were expected to break their portion of stone before breakfast. I asked how long it took to break the stone, and was told from an hour and a half to two hours. The women tramps picked oakum, having their own separate cells.

Certainly there seemed no encouragement given here to vagrancy. A bath, a hard bed, a scanty meal, and two hours of work in solitude would be scorned by the vagabond gentry who demand tea and cake at American farm-houses. Here the iron-hand of want crushes out all squeamishness. Mrs. Mead told us they received over a hundred vagrants weekly.

A blind man lately called at a down town office and solicited alms. On the request being refused, he innocently remarked that he had not called in that vicinity for three months, thus revealing himself as a chronic beggar.

SOCIETY'S WORK.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The ASSEMBLY for January was held on the 16th inst., at 1420 Chestnut Street, the President, PHILIP C. GARRETT, Esq., in the Chair. The room was crowded to its fullest capacity. The minutes of the last session being read by the Secretary, HAROLD GOODWIN, Esq., the Chair announced the subject for the evening—

THE BEST METHODS OF DEALING WITH MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN, FOUND BEGGING ON THE STREETS OR FROM DOOR TO DOOR.

After presenting the apologies of the Chief of Police, for his enforced absence, Mr. Garrett called attention to the suppression of beggars, as amongst the primary objects of the Society, and to the need of adopting the best means for this end, especially in the case of children. The most difficult class to deal with is composed of those who beg on the streets, as the Society's method of giving tickets can be better tested on those begging at house doors. The consideration of the subject should, by all means, have a practical end in view.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY presented the summary of the laws bearing on Tramps and Vagrants, as embodied in the report of the Committee on Legal Questions, and published in the REGISTER for August 1880.

JOSIAH R. SYDNER, Esq., as Chairman of the Committee last named, explained the scope and bearings of the law, and the difference between Tramps and Vagrants, the former being those beggars who have no fixed residence or lawful occupation in the county or city where arrested; and the latter having a fixed place of residence, but begging or gathering alms in the streets or from door to door.

He held that it may be possible to describe a good method of charity administration, but no one is prepared to say which is best. The men and women in Philadelphia, engaged in this work, are convinced that this is the unknown quantity yet to be found in the conduct of charity in large cities. No prophet has risen in our ranks and proclaimed, 'here is truth,' but we are satisfied if we take one step, at a time in the right direction, we are then ready at the proper moment to take another; and this is the spirit which has moved the workers in the cause from the commencement. The question under discussion evokes another, which is indifferently understood, but is of the first importance—that of co-operation—concerning which, he desired to indicate its meaning, what it has helped the Society to obtain, and what might be obtained. The first strong light was thrown upon this branch of the Society's work a year and a half ago, when intelligent offers of practical co-operation came from the "Fuel Savings Society." At their suggestion, we designated receivers in each Ward, and at that time they had had no receiver in West Philadelphia, but in May last our nominee was appointed. When the books were closed in October, the receiver had orders for 51 tons of coal, from over 30 contributors, who up to that time had been regular applicants to us for relief. The money would otherwise have been squandered for liquor, and the people who saved were those who had never done so before. This result was obtained by availing of the personal influence of our Visitors through co-operation. This Society might have established its own receivers, and contracted for coal, but this is not the principle of the Society.

Again, the Union Benevolent Association has an admirable arrangement for loaning stoves to poor people. There are many more who need them, but this Society does not propose to start a rival stove-loaning agency—we prefer to co-operate. We say to the Union Benevolent Association, 'you send stoves to such people as we certify are worthy, and we will oversee them two or three times every week, through our large force of Visitors, and we can thus afford to guarantee that the stoves are properly cared for and returned; and, moreover, that they are kept warm.' If the Union Benevolent Association have not stoves enough to supply the increased demand, we will ask them to enlarge their stock, so that others will not be forced into this special business with the risk of conflict and interference.

Of the Home Missionary Society we cannot speak too highly. It has a scheme for sending homeless or neglected children into country homes. As wisdom comes by experience, they should, by this time, know better than any other Society how best to provide for this most touching class of the poor. We want to say to that Society, 'if you will take all the children, needing such service, which we will send, our Visitors will carefully examine and certify to the cases. If your present plans will not enable you to do the work, and you are unwilling to enlarge your facilities in that direction, we must, for it has to be done.'

Another important question is, how to co-operate with the police. Some

persons are persuaded into right modes of living, and others have to be constrained into them. It is no easy matter for anyone to govern himself. Take from the poor man the desire to rise from poverty, make him contented with his lot, and you have pauperism. By kind words you may re-kindle ambition and hope, and then you have only poverty to deal with. This law of love is supplemented by the law of force—by an Act of Assembly which provides for the suppression of paupers.

Better co-operation is also essential with the Alms-houses, the House of Correction, and the various Homes and Institutions, and better administration is needed in many of them; but these will not be obtained by fault-finding, but may come about by the mutual understanding which we seek to set up and maintain.

More than two years since, City Councils saw what was proposed by this Society, and lopped off the \$60,000 to \$80,000 previously annually appropriated for "out-door relief," and that action has brought no suffering with it. The next step will be to bring the Almshouse and House of Correction under the tutelage of the principles of true Charity, and lodge the new ideas in the minds of the management. It is clear that we cannot suppress vagrancy, until we have full municipal and social co-operation, and this Society and the public have a right to demand it. It will not be accomplished in two or five years—it is a life-long work; and the Society will stand for her principles until all charitable agencies come into co-operation.

As to the Acts of 1876 and 1879, he thought that the latter only repeals the former, so far as it relates to tramps. Our own people are vagrants, and those of other communities are tramps. The law requires the police to arrest them, and take them before a Magistrate, by whom the vagrants are to be committed to the workhouse, and the tramps sent to Quarter Sessions for trial. Having been committed to the workhouse, there is no law or right to summarily discharge them. The Managers of the House of Correction (which is our workhouse,) claim that that institution has a capacity of 2,000, and the appropriations provide for but 1,000, and they are compelled to make discharges in order to reduce the population to this number. If the inmates cannot be made self-supporting, it is the duty of the city to make up the deficit. It has no right to provide for but half. It is all folly to say that street cleaning, paving, sewer excavations, and such public works cannot be done by the inmates. A practical hand and a firm determination, will solve the problem. The Managers have already demonstrated it themselves on the Meadow Banks.

In the case of children begging, it must be remembered that almost every child is forced out by cruel parents, and the power and influence of the "Society to Protect Children" can be used in every such case. Persons encouraging these children by gifts only add to and perpetuate the cruelty. Bring us the actual cases, apply common sense to them, and we will get a ready solution. Our District offices are Intelligence Bureaux for just such cases, accessible to every one, and we will assist in seeing that parents practicing such cruelty are compelled to cease it.

MAGISTRATE WM. H. LIST gave his experiences as a police magistrate for seven years in a district (the 5th ward) where vagrancy in its worst phases is to be found. He had noticed that the same faces filled the lodging rooms at the police station, and come before him among the candidates for commitment to the House of Correction, over and over again. In dealing with these people, the Magistrate is greatly limited by the law. He had tested both acts, and endeavored to have the Court construe them. In one year he had sent 1,000 persons to the House of Correction for 6 to 24 months; but they seem to get out with marvellous ease, and re-appear in their old haunts and habits. There should be a restriction on the power of Managers to discharge committed persons. If they could be forced to retain the inmates, Councils would have to utilize the inmates by finding work for them.

Mr. List stated that the Society could aid him greatly, as he often had cases before him, which for lack of proper officers he could not examine into thoroughly. The Society to Protect Children from Cruelty was of great utility, its officers promptly caring for the children of drunken parents who are brought before him. The children found begging on the streets would be immensely benefited by a commitment to the House of Refuge, as will be apparent to any one visiting that institution, and also considering from what a life the children are rescued.

ALEXANDER P. COLESBERRY, Esq., of the Union Benevolent Association, spoke as one of the youngest members of one of the oldest Relief Societies. In entering upon the work he found his own Society already matured, and thus he had never carefully considered the subject, until supplied with the publications of this Society; upon the perusal of which he was astonished at the magnitude of the subject, and its great influence upon our social and political fabric. It takes such live Soci-

eties as this to inaugurate new methods to suppress these appalling evils. He had in his hand a speech prepared for this occasion, but what he had heard induced him to lay it aside and to speak from the impulse of the moment; and after what he had read and heard he was ready to announce himself a convert to the principles of this Society.

It is well known that the House of Correction was established for taking off the streets those made paupers by intemperance and crime, and applying efforts for their reformation. He believed that all pauperism was the result of intemperance and crime, and that the difficulties were not so much in the manner of dealing with adults as with the children of the criminal and intemperate poor. Co-operative effort, to effect this reform, should be agitated more than it is. He believed that education was the solution of this problem, as it was that of the Indian question, by converting the children of the red man into intelligent, good and law-abiding citizens. To do good we must not only be benevolent, but philanthropic; and, judging by results, it is plain that there must be either crime or negligence in the management of the city institutions which deal with the classes in question. The streets could be cleaned and paved and other municipal work could be done by vagrants' labor, but the matter has never been seriously considered by those in authority. If inmates were put out to work on the streets, they would either leave here to prey on other communities or they would become law-abiding citizens.

He advocated a law that should take from every parent the children sent out begging, and place them in a reformatory home. We do not hesitate to take away children that are cruelly maltreated, but it is a greater cruelty to send them out on the streets to beg.

The public, also, ought to be protected from hereditary paupers, and in order to attain that, the children should be taken first. It is not necessary to go into Insane Asylums to find hereditary influence, but we find it in our generations of paupers. The highest civilization is, that our children should be born of honest and noble parentage, and there is no worse evil to be perpetuated in society than pauperism. Apply hard work to the men, but try to reform the little ones and send them out with a trade and some moral education, which will enable them to contend against intemperance and crime. Let us all co-operate in this work as fellow citizens, and thus we may suppress mendicancy.

WILLIAM WATERALL, Esq., of the Home Missionary Society, and President of the Sons of St. George, met his first experience with vagrants in his connection with English emigrants. He had found that the man who would receive a charity without a blush, is on the road to vagrancy. He strongly protested against giving to beggars, for all beggary is the outgrowth of vice and immorality. He had recently noticed at his dwelling a professional basket-beggar, whom his servant supplied with bread and meat. So long as citizens permit this, and men and women can get food for nothing, they will refuse to work. And any organization that gives alms without investigation, does a positive wrong to the community. He believed with the Psalmist, that the man who serves God and keeps His Commandments never wants bread.

Mr. Waterall desired to pay an honest compliment to this Society, in that it had accomplished much good in the way of educating the public up to its principles, i. e., that "if any man will not work, neither shall he eat." The Home Missionary Society has for 15 years been educating its own contributors in these views, and instructing them not to give without investigation, providing them with reference tickets for that purpose; but this Society has gone farther and has attempted to educate the whole community. One of the most shameful evils of the day is the waste of charitable means upon the criminal poor, and the promotion of evil by the encouragement given to beggars. He believed vagrants should have been cleaning the streets and building our sewers long ago.

REV. H. MARTYN HART, late of London, and now Dean of St. John's P. E. Cathedral, Denver, Col., was introduced as one of the founders of the London Charity Organization Society, of the inception of which he gave a graphic account. He likened pauperism to a marsh, to cure which either the rivulets which feed it must be diverted, or a channel for drainage must be cut through the center. In London, about 1870, enough funds were annually provided to give every pauper a cottage, a farm and a two-horse wagon to drive about in. He went to reside, about that time, at Blackheath, a suburb of London, and a residence of wealthy classes. It was over-run by a horde of beggars who besieged the houses and everyone who arrived by the trains. He thought of the marsh, and determined to stop the rivulets. He prepared tickets, like perforated sheets of postage stamps, each ticket introducing the bearer to the parish relief office, and these sheets were freely distributed among citizens. Simultaneously large posters were placarded over Blackheath, desiring the public to give no relief to beggars, but to hand each a ticket. The next morning the beggars awoke to the consciousness that nothing

was to be had in Blackheath but tickets, which would neither make soup or buy beer, and in a week's time not a beggar was to be seen; and in 1879, when he left, beggars were so rare as to be veritable curiosities. As they left Blackheath, they swarmed upon the next parish, which thus had a double portion, and was thereby forced to adopt the Blackheath system; and so this mendicity method spread from parish to parish, until the Charity Organization system was developed in London, and now has spread all over England. It is hard to attack the promotion of crime, but the Charity Organization Society, of London, has done more than any other agency to combat it there. It took Lord Lichfield, himself and a few others, two years to get the Society into working order, but as the nobility opened their doors to its earliest meetings, and many of the clergy co-operated, it soon became popular, and now 90 per cent. of the vagrancy in England has been suppressed.

In Dorsetshire, bread tickets were given to all beggars, entitling the bearer to a loaf of bread every 8 or 10 miles, but this was too much like work for these idle vagabonds, and in a wonderfully short time they all disappeared. In the course of his investigations, he found paupers that were getting help from eighteen or twenty sources at one time; but by co-operation and opening centers of information, the evil is largely broken up. The able-bodied are driven to work, and the infirm and dependent can be readily and inadequately cared for. In conclusion he said: "The work on which your Society will split, will be in its becoming an almoning agency. You will be abused, and ignorant people will charge that you are spending a lot of money, without doing any good; but do not be discouraged. Every good work suffers abuse and misconception. Do not become an alms-giving Society, and, above all, do all in your power to induce the public not to give to beggars anything but tickets, introducing them to Ward officers, or to some co-operating Society—nothing more; coal and soup tickets they can sell for beer, but your tickets they cannot sell. Again I say, do not flinch under abuse, for 'Woe unto you when all men speak well of you.' Go on patiently in your education of the public, for it is most dull and slow to learn. Hold on to the work; and never forget the causes which led to the origin of the Society. Stop imposture by exposure, but don't give."

Facile est descensus Averni, and the speediest way to deepen a man's degradation is to give him money without requiring work for it, for unearned money is the worst thing he can have. The Lord Jesus never gave money, although He could have commanded the wealth of Jerusalem.

The interest being unabated, the Assembly unanimously resolved not to adopt the recommendation of the Committee of Arrangements, to omit the February meeting, but to continue the present subject of discussion on the 6th proximo. Whereupon the Assembly adjourned.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular January meeting of the Visitors was held on the 4th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M., with the President, Mrs. R. E. C. Gillingham, in the Chair, and Mrs. Martha A. Jones, Secretary.

Reports were presented from 9 Wards, showing 963 friendly visits made; 99 medical visits supplied; 44 visits made and 69 letters written on behalf the poor; 283 new families taken in charge; 17 families graduated into independent condition; 38 new children received in the Society's Kindergartens; temporary employment furnished to 20, and permanent situations found for 7.

The cessation of doles of soup and bread, by the old Griscom Street Soup House, has flooded the 5th Ward Association with applicants from those, heretofore, depending upon free soup for winter supplies; but the cases are rare wherein the stoppage has not been a blessing in disguise to the poor.

The 13th Ward reported a bountiful Thanksgiving Dinner to 20 families (92 persons), composed of widows, sickly and infirm people, with happy results to both sides.

The question, who were embraced in "Children under our care" in the reports, having arisen, it was concluded that it was not limited to those brought to the Visitors' notice during the present year, but the children of all families who have ever been under the Society's care and have not been graduated into independence. The hold upon them is not to be loosened while they need "a friend."

MRS. R. BLANKENBURG, (9th Ward,) reported an effort to have removed from the streets, an old female organ-grinder, usually located at 12th and Arch Streets; but the police, after consultation, said that as long as she sat merely grinding her machine, looking pitifully at

passers-by, and not asking alms aloud, she could not come under the vagrancy law.

It was thought that many of the police were troubled with inertia, and were not anxious to make arrests of such cases.

MISS MARY COXE, (7th Ward,) called attention to the numbers of children begging in that Ward, noticeably during the holidays; and, also, to the great need of care in giving out coal to the colored population. In a long experience with them, she found that they easily procured, by begging, everything else they required, and their special efforts were put forth to secure free coal, which would enable them to lead a perfectly idle and vicious life. The favor shown to them in many quarters also demoralizes their poor Irish neighbors, who claimed fuel supplies because equally worthy.

MISS HANCOCK, (6th Ward,) emphasized the ease with which fuel was procured by these classes, through the duplicate and careless giving of so many societies working in the dark.*

The Committee of Arrangements proposed for consideration the subject of "Foundlings and Homes."

MRS. GEO. I. SIMONS, (30th Ward,) instanced a widow, young, incapable, and left with 5 children whom she could not possibly support. What could be done? The Ward Association was illy supported by the citizens, and the burden was thrown upon a few Visitors.

MISS HANCOCK offered a good home in Georgia for two of the children, if the mother would relinquish them; other Visitors pointed out sources of both temporary and permanent disposal, and the Day Nursery was suggested as ready to open its doors for the one or two whom the mother could retain and thus support.

MRS. BLANKENBURG detailed recent visits to the Sheltering Arms and the Infants' Home. The former was entirely full, but ready to receive infants, with or without mothers, as fast as changes would permit. The latter was compelled by its finances to give preference to those children whose board would be partly paid, although receiving others free, as far as its ability permits. The Infants' Home desired this Society's co-operation, both in the matter of investigating applicants and in finding family homes for infants approaching 3 years old, when they must leave the institution.

MRS. JOHN LUCAS, (10th Ward,) commended the Homeopathic Hospital for Children, at 43d and Oregon Streets, as a refuge for invalid children; and Miss Moss, (7th Ward,) reported the opening of a Ward for Children in the Episcopal Hospital, under superior conditions.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY reported a visit to the St. Vincent's Home for Infants, and alluded to its excellent internal management and arrangements, and its well-devised plan of boarding out its youngest charges in families of the same class in life, but under systematic inspection and visitation by the Sisters in charge. The Society to Protect Children place many of their wards in this institution.

MISS SARAH NEWLIN (9th Ward,) alluded to the experience of France and Germany, which proved that private homes are vastly preferable to institutional life, for dependent infants.

DR. E. P. JEFFERIS (8th and 9th Ward Superintendent,) enforced the consideration that a child, brought up under the influences of a good family, was far better fitted for future private life, than when trained in an institution.

The only available homes for infants were found to be the St. Vincent's, the Infants Home, the Sheltering Arms, and the Friends' Home, recently opened. All but the latter aim to supply the little ones with mother's milk. The weak point in all was stated to be that they did not procure private homes for the children when the latter left their care.

The Conference then adjourned.

* This recalls the family near Alaska Street, reported two years since, who, by persistent begging, accumulated 15 tons of coal in their cellar from easy-giving sources, and lived by retailing it out by the bucketful.

LETTER FROM MR. ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

Mr. Anthony Comstock is well known as the courageous and able representative of the reform which he urges in the following letter. It may not be possible to "find a place in our organization" for just such a work, since our particular machinery is not contrived for it. But every enemy of pauperism must, also, be the enemy of its allies and causes; and all men and women who are concerned for the prevention of the worst mischief, will surely find or make a way to counteract the subtle poison of a corrupt literature. We cheerfully give room to Mr. Comstock's earnest words, and commend the subject to public attention:—

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF VICE,
150 Nassau Street.

DECEMBER, 23, 1881.

MR. CHARLES D. KELLOGG, General Secretary,
Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

Dear Sir:—I am indebted to you, or some person, for copies of the MONTHLY REGISTER as they are issued. While you do not attempt the work of this Society, yet you run along the same line. It occurred to me, while looking over your December number, that there ought to be in some corner of your paper, a place devoted to the elevating of the mind of the child from the "vagrancy and pauperism" that follows from evil reading. I have given much attention, of late, to the different grades of evil reading, and their effect upon the children and the future generation. Corrupt the child, and you have laid the foundation for a corrupt man.

There are certain publications that enter the household without the resistance of the parent, that are working harm among the children of our very best families. Cheap sensational story papers are making day dreamers, and castle builders of our young men—in other words, are filling the minds of the children with wild fancies, to the exclusion of useful knowledge. Study becomes irksome, when the fancies of the story have seized upon the imagination of the child. The "boy and girl" story papers, sold for five cents, are making infant felons and boy criminals. These stories of boy and girl criminals, (without any literary merit,) are transferring the knife, the revolver and the bludgeon, from the hands of the professional criminal to that of the school boy.

I met, a short time ago, one of the members of the Prison Association, of this State, and I asked him what proportion of the criminals, arraigned in the courts of this city, were under 21 years of age? He promptly replied, "One half." What number under 16 years of age? As promptly came the reply, "One quarter."

Then, in addition to the above, the vile and sickening details of loathsome crimes that appear in our daily papers, are educating our children into that which is vile and criminal; and are furnishing the innocent ones at our fireside with a topic of conversation among their playmates, that is both hurtful and degrading. Then comes along the same line the infidel and scoffer, with their blasphemous frothings against the Almighty. All these are above the law, and can only be reached by an enlightened public sentiment.

Then, add to these, the publications that traverse the mail of the United States, that go under the sanctity of its seal, that are placed in the hands of the young, unknown to the parent or teacher, by corrupt men, and we have a source of corruption and evil, existing in our homes and in our schools, among the children, that is simply appalling to contemplate.

"God is not mocked; as ye sow, so shall ye reap." If we permit these evils to go on unchecked; if Christian men and philanthropists of to-day will sit down quietly, without any remonstrance, and let these seeds of vice and sensuality be scattered broadcast over the land, we must expect, at no distant day, a sad harvest of youthful criminals and vagabonds. If space would permit, I could point you to hundreds of young men and youths who have gone down to lives of crime and shame from the baneful influence I have described.

Is there no place in your organization for this important cause? And is it not as important to prevent the pauperism and vagrancy of the minds and souls of our youth, in all ranks of society, as it is to alleviate the bodily sufferings of the poor?

Very truly yours,

ANTHONY COMSTOCK.

LEXINGTON, ME.—A CORRECTION.

MR. CHARLES D. KELLOGG.

Dear Sir:—In "The MONTHLY REGISTER" for December, I find an item copied from *The National Baptist*, which has appeared in *Harper's Weekly*, and I presume elsewhere, which needs correction. It is the statement that in the little town of Lexington, Maine, containing about eighty voters, a great sum of money has been spent upon paupers in the (almost) fifty years of its existence, and that one family has received \$42,000. Thinking the statement remarkable, I wrote to the Town Clerk of Lexington, and received a very courteous and carefully written reply. He says that the statement is "so big a lie we took no notice of it." The item appeared in a local paper, published at Skowhegan, and was apparently intended to injure the credit of Lexington. The debt of \$13,000 came especially from raising troops at the time of the war. Before that time the debt was \$1600. The annual town expenses, from 1833 to 1861, were about \$300 for pauper's bills, town officers' bills, interest, &c. The average amount spent for paupers, in the last ten years,

is about \$600 per year, and the number aided is twenty or twenty-five per year. One family is named which has received help through three generations, not every year but frequently. The property valuation of the town is \$60,000, and the number of voters, 85. The town is decreasing in population, as most of the back towns in Maine. It is plain that the story which is passing from paper to paper is false, although there is enough that is true to point a moral.

E. S. L.

New Haven, January 12, 1882.

We gladly make the correction, with thanks to our correspondent for the opportunity. Lexington, however, may still claim a high rank among the towns that nourish and perpetuate pauperism. One pauper to every four voters, and a tax of one per cent. of the total valuation spent to sustain them, is immensely liberal to say the least.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

FROM OUR FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

FOREIGN CHARITY ORGANIZATION ITEMS.

WORK FOR VAGRANTS, is supplied by the Prescot (Eng.) Guardians by the use of corn-mills, in which the meal for the tramps is ground by the tramps themselves.

THE VIENNA C. O. SOCIETY, (Verein gegen Verarmung u. Bettelei) as also those at Berlin and Treves, provides each of its members with a metal badge to be fixed to their doors, as a warning to all beggars that they will not receive aid at that house, but only be sent to the Society.

DENSE POPULATION.—The censuses of 1881 fixes the population of London at 3,832,441, or an increase of 565,454 in the past decade. Of these, 755,240 are children of school-age, or between three and fourteen years. The area of London is less, by twenty-two square miles, than that of Philadelphia.

WHOLESALE BUSINESS.—A begging letter writer recently ordered 30,000 copies of a lithographed sensational circular, to be distributed as a personal appeal to the benevolent through the mails. The circular cost him not less than £2. 10s. per 1000 to circulate. Such commercial boldness is born only of past successes.

CO-OPERATION.—The great success attending the Co-operative Stores in Great Britain, has led to the foundation of the "Guild of Co-operators," a propagandist body founded to spread a knowledge of the system and to assist in starting stores. It is composed of persons well versed in the practical management of such stores.

A NEW FRAUD was recently exposed by the London C. O. Society. An earnest appeal was made in behalf of a poor family, who, proved, after investigation, to be worthy of aid; but it was also ascertained that the appeal emanated from their landlady, who received the money sent in response to the appeal and retained it for rent, and was not at all particular, when the rent was paid, to hand the balance over to the needy family, who were ignorant that some of the letters were written.

CHILDREN'S COUNTRY WEEK.—A London worker in this field warmly advocates making the parents, where able, pay for part or the whole of the children's journey to and from the country. She has tried it with the best moral results. The board was given to the children, free of course; and where part of the fare was paid, as in cases of widows, it was not given until the child had started. The summer had hardly closed before parents and children commenced saving up for the next summer's week or two in the country.

SMALL SAVINGS.—In eleven months after the adoption of the plan of receiving small deposits in the form of postage stamps, in the P. O. Savings Banks, the number of depositors increased 434,000. The increase of the previous eleven months was 93,000. Mr. Fawcett says;

"Although many of those stamped forms come from some of the poorest homes in England they continue to be received, almost without exception, in the most clean and orderly state. To show the effect they have in encouraging children to take the first step on the path of thrift, I may mention, that not long since I was conversing with a postmaster in a town where there was a large working population, and he told me that he never knew a child make his first deposit on one of these forms that did not become a regular depositor afterwards. Besides the direct advantages which the scheme has secured, I believe its indirect effects have been very important in popularizing the savings' bank."

INTELLIGENT RELIEF.—In a recent meeting of the Stranger's Friend Society, London, Mr. Reiss, Hon. Secretary of the St. Pancras Committee, well expressed Charity Organization aims. He said:

"The Charity Organization Society had two great principles—firstly, investigation; secondly, adequate relief. The object of the first was not the detection of imposture—it was to detect the cause of pauperism; the detection of imposture came out by the way. With regard to adequate relief, the Society aimed at permanently helping those who could be helped, and placing them in a position of independence, so that they might never have to apply to charity again. It was of no use to give away charity in doles. What, for instance, was the good of giving a poor widow a few shillings? The proper thing to do was to see how many children she had, and, if she could not support them all, to take some of them off her hands, and so enable her to support the rest. The proper relief of the poor could only be achieved by the joint action of all charitable persons and agencies in the metropolis."

PERSONAL WORK.—A correspondent of the *Reporter* (London) speaks pointedly of a want which many of our United States Societies feel with equal force—that of intelligent and willing workers, fully converted to the great need of superceding alms by personal service, and by carefully studying how to make every case independent of alms:

"You cannot have charity organization without charity organizationists; and what is wanted, is to bring the work undertaken, into proportion with the number and capacity of your workers. At present the clergy, relieving officers, and others send up every case which puzzles them, as they are invited to do; and these have to be dealt with somehow or other. The result of this plan is; in the absence of a sufficiency of active Directors and Visitors to throw on the agent a responsibility for which he is not qualified by nature or education. You cannot expect to deal satisfactorily with thirty cases a week, when you have not machinery for properly considering more than ten. Let the Society take stock of its assets in the shape of its actual amount of organizing power, and of its liabilities in the way of promises and public undertakings. Organization does not consist in theory, in red-tape, in promising that which you are not prepared to carry out, in putting the cart of theory before the horse of practice."

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

BOSTON, JANUARY 2, 1882.

The annual report of the Associated Charities consists chiefly of the reports of the 14 conferences which represent the 24 Wards of the city. It seems more interesting to send you one or two of these, than to attempt to make any resume of the whole.

The organization has become an incorporated body, and instead of having two hundred directors, it is now managed by a council of eighteen, as a smaller number is more efficient for working purposes. 46 charitable agencies and 386 private persons have joined in registration this year! Of these, 34 agencies and 68 private persons registered last year also.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE OF WARD VI.

Ward 6 is one mile long by half a mile broad. About one-half of this area is covered by stores; while into the other half are crowded some 15,000 people of all nationalities, multitudes of whom are struggling with the most wretched poverty.

It has been estimated that in the north end of Boston, of which this district is a part, there are four hundred grog-shops, and more than one hundred houses of ill-fame, with their attendant dance-houses.

Thronging these streets and alleys and tenement-houses are people of all trades, from the prosperous merchant to the organ-grinder and rag-picker. Here also are multitudes of people of no trade but that of deceiving the charitable public, systematically going the rounds from one relief-giving society and individual to another, and thus maintaining an easy and idle existence.

The Ward 6 Conference, who now complete their third year of work, have endeavored faithfully, under many discouraging and trying difficulties, to carry out the plan of the Society with this somewhat miscellaneous throng.

We have struggled with a variety of perplexing problems; and, although we must confess that many of them are yet unsolved, we are by no means discouraged, but, with the accumulated wisdom of the past, we look forward to better work and greater results in the future.

We divide our flock into two great classes:—

1. Those who *could* be independent if they *would*, and
2. Those who *would* be independent if they *could*.

Our aim has been to relieve worthy need, and assist to independence, when possible, those of the first class, and to prevent unwise alms to the second. We have endeavored to keep special watch over the children, that they may not grow up into idle and thriftless habits.

Of these, 30 saved money. The large proportion requiring relief, 84 out of 114 cases, as compared with the first year's report, shows that there is less imposture in the city, and that the worthy poor are being effectually cared for through the work of the Society.

The report of the Overseers of the Poor shows that the city has had less to do for relief than in any year since 1871-2. In 1880 the Society saved the city fund \$2,500.

By the labors of the Savings Society Collectors, \$1,370.29 were saved by 227 persons. This is double the amount of last year. The only inducement held out is the assurance of obtaining coal or groceries at the lowest cash price. This plan educates the people to thrifty habits in a way they fully appreciate, and does much to stimulate the spirit of self-help. It is found absolutely necessary to collect the savings regularly, by calling upon the families in their own homes, on a fixed every in day week.

The Employment Fund and the School for Household Work were successfully carried on, the former having paid for work upwards of \$400. This is relief in the best form, and it was earned at regular prices.

In view of the results already manifest, it is impossible to speak of systematic charity as visionary. It is plain that by the continuance of such work, pauperism may not simply be held in check, but actually diminished to comparatively small dimensions.

NOTES.

Did you ever notice the fact that a tramp who claims he has a trade but can't get any work at it, in the winter is a brickmaker, and in the summer is a lumberman or ice sawyer?—*Lockport Union*.

EX-GOVERNOR VAN ZANDT, of Rhode Island, speaking at the recent annual meeting of the Newport Charity Organization Society, said that poverty is oftener the cause of crime than crime is of poverty, and, therefore, the energies of the community should be directed towards every means of diminishing pauperism, and training the poor in self-help and thrift.

Scene (outside ferry-house on the Chelsea side.) Beggar (with suspicious breath)—"Please, sir, give me the price of a passage to Boston." Gentleman (recognizing him)—"How much is the fare?" Hopeful beggar—"Only one cent, sir." Gentleman (sympathetically)—"Poor fellow; and you haven't a cent?" Joyful beggar (eagerly)—"Not a single cent, sir." Gentleman (practically)—"Oh, if a man hasn't a single cent, I don't see but what he is just as well off in Chelsea as in Boston."—*Portland Transcript*.

ANOTHER TRAMP FACTORY.—A Boston correspondent tells us of a very kind lady in Haverhill, Mass., who, out of that sentimental benevolence which Prof. Lesley styles practical malevolence, kept a pot of soup always over her kitchen fire during an entire winter, and fed every tramp, without exception who applied, and, of course, their name was legion. After feeding them, she systematically offered them work, of which she had an abundance, as she was an overworked farmer's wife. All but two declined the proffered labor; these two went away "to get their overalls" and never returned. Will people ever get over the conceit that they can improve on St. Paul's doctrine, that "the man who will not work shall not eat"; or appreciate the criminality of their complicity with these outlaws?"

A kind-hearted she elephant, while walking through the jungle where the spicy breezes blow soft o'er Ceylon Isle, heedlessly set foot upon a partridge, which she crushed to death within a few inches of the nest containing its callow brood. "Poor little things!" said the generous mammoth, "I have been a mother myself, and my affection shall atone for the fatal consequences of my neglect." So saying she sat down upon the orphaned birds.

MORAL—The above teaches us that it is not every person who should be intrusted with the care of an orphan asylum.—*Bret Harte*.

SUPPLEMENTARY "HELP."—The following suggestion of the *Public Ledger* is worthy the consideration of our District Associations' Employment Committees. With a room opened in a Ward-house, or some furnishing store, or other convenient locality, and the enterprise made sufficiently public, a general want might be supplied, and much remunerative work given to the deserving poor who suffer for lack of it. A record, also, of all applicants who depend on occasional jobs, as carpet women, seamstresses, house cleaners, &c., could be kept at the same place for the convenience of the public. In the line of supplementary help, with the trunk packers, carpet women, &c., are the menders. Since attention was called to this need, a number of letters have re-

sponded, some of which have been printed. Here is one which promises a good plan. "A friend, whose reduced income makes it necessary to work for her own support and that of an invalid daughter, has undertaken the business of mending underwear, sewing on buttons, &c. She has arranged with the proprietor of a gentlemen's furnishing store that packages of wearing apparel needing repairs should be left with him to be collected by her—silks, cotton, buttons, furnished by her, garments repaired and returned to the store, with a price list, somewhat similar to a washing list, on which each article left can be marked. This is a practical plan that deserves success.

WANTED—A competent seamstress, capable of teaching sewing, well recommended for fidelity, religious character, and pleasant demeanor, as officer in a Protestant reformatory for women. Visitors knowing of such a person will confer a favor by sending immediate information to the General Secretary of this Society, 1602 Chestnut Street.

CASES.

Case No. 107—The need of a Society that can fit into all emergencies, and care for those that no one else will care for, by friendly methods, is well illustrated by this case:—

Early in 1881, Magistrate Brown informed our 15th Ward Association that he had placed in the House of Correction, at our instigation, a vagrant, one Mark. He was soon discharged as of unsound mind, and besought shelter of the Magistrate, who, in turn, referred him to the care of Superintendent Walk. It was winter, and admission to the Almshouse was procured for him. When warm weather opened he was discharged to follow tramping; and, between that vocation and the County Poor Houses, he spent the summer. His record, when hunted up, showed that he was both vicious and *non compos mentis*; and had served terms in the County Prison and the Penitentiary for larceny. With the return of this winter he applied again to the 15th Ward Association, and, while in the office was seized with active mania. Being unfit to go at large, the Superintendent was compelled to retain him while seeking his admission to Blockley. Blockley refused to receive him, because over-crowded. For his safe detention, while seeking another asylum, special provision had to be negotiated with the Chief of Police, who had forbidden the Police Stations to harbor insane cases. After full presentation the Chief kindly made the necessary exception, and allowed Lieut. Jordan to detain him. A petition in lunacy was then filed with the Solicitor of Norristown Hospital, gratuitous examinations secured, and unsuccessful efforts made to compel the Guardians to bear the expense. Proper certificates being secured and sworn to, the Superintendent had to appear at Quarter Sessions and present the case to Judge Mitchell, who, at last, granted the desired committal. The man was then removed to the Police headquarters, and delivered to a Tip-staff for safe removal to Norristown.

This seemingly simple case required extended correspondence, much valuable time and fourteen official interviews. Anyone objecting to paying intelligent Superintendents, and willing to volunteer to do such work gratuitously, is requested to send his name to the Central Office, and the work will be supplied. The confinement of an insane pauper should be easily attained, but under our present system of divided and disconnected responsibility, it is often a work of exceeding difficulty. Many of the officials are willing to do their duty, but their hands are tied by complex legislation.

Case No. 108—7th Ward. An imposter. A bright young Irish woman, giving her name as Jane Hunter, tall and neatly clad, about 28 years of age, carrying a child and giving her residence at 1114 South Street and 2014 Lombard Street (but does not live at either place); represents that her husband was badly burned at a foundry recently, and is now in Pennsylvania Hospital; and she is soliciting aid of the public. She is a professional beggar, smart and plausible, and well calculated to deceive. Her husband was in the hospital, but dismissed cured, November 16. Aid given to her will be improperly bestowed. She should be referred to our Superintendents every time.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRACE.		By mail.
Large 12 mo; 468 pages; cloth.	\$1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. ANES. 8 vo. pamphlet; 16 pages; per 100	3.00	3.00
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]		
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8 vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GURTEEN. 12 mo.; paper; 79 pp.	.25	.27
MANUAL FOR VISITORS, AND CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY TO THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OF PHILA. 12 mo.; 217 pp.; cloth; (with Chart, if desired.)	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8 vo., over 300 pp.	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER.	.60	.65

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by Will to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. III, NO. 4. }
WHOLE NO. 29. }

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1882.

{ TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
{ SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS.

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to Chas. D. Kellogg.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the *permanent* improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed: or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Mr. Chas. D. Kellogg, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL MARCH 15TH.

- Saturday, February 18, 8 P. M., Superintendents' Meeting.*
Monday, February 27, 4 P. M., Assembly Committee on Statistics.*
" " 27, 8 P. M., Board of Directors.*
Wednesday, March, 1, 10 A. M., Women's General Conference.†
Saturday, " 4, 4 P. M., Assembly Committee on Children.*
Monday, " 6, 8 P. M., Assembly.†
Friday, " 10, 4 P. M., Assembly Com. on Provident Habits.*
Monday, " 13, 8 P. M., Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†At 1420 Chestnut Street.

‡At Y. M. C. A. Building, S. E. corner 15th and Chestnut Streets.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Joshua L. Baily (Pres.)	A. C. Deakne, M.D.	Ambrose Smith.
Jas. S. Whitney (Vice-Pres.)	Benj. F. Dennison.	Josiah R. Sypher.
Rev. Chas. G. Ames.	Nelson F. Evans.	Rev. R. E. Thompson, Ph. D.
Rudolph Blankenburg.	Philip C. Garrett.	Jos. K. Wheeler.
C. E. Cadwalader, M.D.	Thos. S. Harrison.	Albert B. Williams.
H. T. Child, M.D.	Samuel Huston.	Robt. N. Willson.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Who find this paragraph marked with a blue pencil are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With them the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask each one to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of thoughtful friends. You can

GET A COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER.

To every one sending us \$5.00, with the address of ten new subscribers, we will send a copy of "THE DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK," by Chas. Loring Brace, one of the most thrilling and instructive books of the time.

BEGGING LETTERS.

Persons receiving Begging Letters are earnestly requested to send them to this Society for investigation.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

CRITICS AT FAULT.

It is not an unfrequent experience of benevolent societies that applicants for relief who have been referred by contributors or other persons to the officers of the Society, for investigation and aid, return to those who sent them, complaining that they have received no attention; and their complaints are too frequently accepted as true by the said contributors or other persons, without seeking to know what had been done or offered, or what additional information may have been secured, wholly changing the conditions and requirements of the case. Such procedure, we submit, is neither fair nor courteous. No Society will claim that its officers and Visitors are infallible in their judgments; but when after careful examination by trained agents, and (as is the case with all societies using co-operative methods and large bodies of Visitors,) a judicial study of all the testimony, by an expert committee or conference, their deliberate decision is worthy of respect, and certainly no one should set it aside or condemn it without full inquiry. New light might be obtained or imparted by an interview with the superintendent or agent, or by asking for a written report; and, in consequence, an unfavorable opinion of the Society's action might be removed, or, on the other hand, the Society might alter its decision after full consultation. These hasty judgments are scarcely consistent with what should be the leading motive, namely, desire to promote the real good of the applicants. Earnest mutual study of each case ought to result in such good, and this study is the very thing that Organized Charity seeks to secure and enforce. Through our abundant methods we often discover resources, legal rights, claims on relatives and societies, or other sufficient provision, of which the contributors and sometimes the poor applicants themselves are unaware, and which no single-handed investigation would be likely to disclose.

A manager of a leading Relief Society informed us, recently, that the Society was often compelled to give to notoriously unworthy people, to whom the relief was simply a premium on drunkenness and vice, because such and such contributors, unaware of the facts, sent the persons to the Society with an intimation that unless these cases were relieved their contributions would be withdrawn.

THE SHELTERING ARMS.

In the January REGISTER we published a well digested article on the "Care of Deserted Infants," and referred to the probable adoption of the recommendations of the writer, B. J. C., by the "Sheltering Arms" of Philadelphia.

Since then we have received a communication from Rev. Jos. J. Sleeper, M. D., the Warden of that institution, announcing that the plan in question is, as far the managers are able, being tried. Its Visitors secure and visit the private homes where children have been put to board. As soon as a baby is well, and a good place is found for it, they have it adopted; or if they have the means, place it in a private home, in the country.

The managers also make a point to find both parents if possible. Out of the first 71 cases they found one or both parents of all but 8, and many of these are now providing for their children. The Warden says that it is "something desperate that makes a parent desert a child, and frequently when they come to themselves they are happy to know the child has been preserved, and they gladly provide for it as they are able." In this the experience of the "Sheltering Arms" already confirms that of all their predecessors who have given thought and study to this department of charitable work.

INVESTIGATIONS.

Investigations are generally, if not necessarily, distasteful. But unless anybody chooses to contend that "give to every man that asketh of you" is an everlasting law of conduct, and means that money is to be given to every applicant for alms, the obligation to investigate arises whenever we are appealed to. In view, however, of the alarming growth of pauperism, and the well-ascertained fact of the existence of various classes of "professional beggars," to whom the benevolence of the community is for a prey to their teeth, even personal investigation, necessary and desirable as it is wherever it can be made, cannot be adequate. In a village or thinly populated district it is easy to know one's neighbors, but how can we discriminate the worthy poor from the "professional" in Philadelphia, or any other considerable city? The co-operation of the charitable, in what has been aptly called a "clearing-house," is an imperative necessity, as well for the adequate relief of the deserving as for the exposure of impostors.

THE REGISTER AS A CAMPAIGN DOCUMENT.

We venture, once more, to throw out the suggestion to the Ward and District Directors, to our Corresponding Societies in other cities, and to other friends in localities where any people live who are unacquainted with the purposes of Organized or Associated Charity, that a special edition or particular issue of the REGISTER, containing an appeal in behalf of their special local work, could be used effectively instead of a circular. Each copy could be handed personally to one of these unconverted ones, with a request to pass it around. It would, doubtless, be received as a courtesy, and might make an impression that would by cumulation some day bring some into the fold of Organization.

WORK FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

The Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity have effected an arrangement with the authorities of the Pennsylvania Rail Road, by which branch associations of the Society may send to the proper officers of the Road all able-bodied men applying for employment, or for relief because they have no work. The Road will be able to give work to a considerable number of men for many months to come, and while muscle is more desirable than merit, the preference will be given to the poor whom our Superintendents can recommend after investigation. Such will be likely to obtain permanent employment if faithful.

NEW YORK CITY.—The latest accession to the cause is where it has been long and sadly needed—in our metropolitan City of New York. The Charity Organization Society, of that city, was inaugurated on the 8th inst., and enters upon a work of great moment and magnitude. The wisdom of its promoters is seen in the avoidance of many of the difficulties which have embarrassed Societies elsewhere. Its work is to be completely severed from all questions of religious belief, politics and nationality; and it will not directly dispense alms in any form—these are its fundamental principles. The whole management is vested in its Central Council, which creates and re-arranges Districts as it shall find most judicious; and, in the first instance, appoints the members of the District Committees; thus avoiding the danger of the work of the Society being anywhere

impeded by those who fail to comprehend the grand scope and purpose of its existence. We rejoice with those who have labored so faithfully and patiently to bring about this result, and heartily wish the Society every success.

THE BUREAU OF ASSOCIATED CHARITIES, of Newark, N. J., is a recent addition to the C. O. Societies of the United States. It follows closely in the lines of Boston and Philadelphia, but it will have one great advantage over the latter, in that it "will neither solicit nor receive funds for the purpose of alms-giving"—a system thus far forced upon the Philadelphia Society by many territorial disadvantages. The Newark Organization can devote all its energies to those efforts which tend to redeem the poor from pauperism. We give Newark our cordial welcome and good wishes.

FOUNDLINGS.—In the Article on the "Care of Deserted Infants" in the REGISTER for January, an error occurred in the statement that the New York law forbids the "placing of children under two years of age in any almshouse in the state." The law in question, on the contrary, prohibits placing, or keeping, children over two years of age in the Poorhouse, and was intended to prevent the moral contamination of children, not the physical neglect of infants. The error was based on information wrongly given to the writer in his investigations among the New York institutions.

THE INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY have added a new wrinkle to their Wood-Yard, bringing it into the line of co-operative enterprises. Instead of selling the split wood to large consumers, they build up a trade especially among the poor, who buy "by the small," and propose to share the profits with them in such a way that, by the next season, a dividend will be paid to them in wood or cash.

A PRESENT PERIL.—We are often reminded that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." It is equally important to remember that it is impossible to maintain free institutions among people who lack the virtues of freemen. A pauper class is a social danger in any community, but its growth in our republic is a threatening evil which it is impossible to dread too seriously.

THAT PERIPATETIC COFFEE CONCERN, reported by our Boston friends, strikes us as pointing out a profitable employment for men partially crippled or otherwise unfit for ordinary manual labor, and which would not only meet a common want, but also have an excellent moral effect. It would keep many a workingman clear of the beer saloon and whisky mill.

It is proposed to publish, as a Supplement to the next number of the REGISTER, the admirable lecture of Prof. R. E. Thompson on "Charity Organization", recently delivered at Association Hall, in the course on "Living Issues in Social Science."

THE THIRD ANNUAL REPORT of the Society is now ready for issue. Copies will be sent to any requesting it, and may be obtained at the Central Office.

INSTITUTIONAL LIFE.

At a recent meeting of the Assembly's Committee on the Education and Care of Children, the subject of "The Effect of Institutional Life upon Infants and Children" being considered—

MR. J. G. ROSENGARTEN said that every effort should be made to utilize existing institutions, to select those that were best organized, to increase their efficiency, and reduce the expenses of administration and the reduplication of labor. The Homes and Reformatories, of this city, were mainly the product of the peculiar conditions of Philadelphia, with its numerous independent localities and its absence of any central alliance or authority. Until the State Board of Charities was created, there was no visitational power, no supervision, no inspection, and even now this was necessarily of an intermittent and uncertain kind. The Society for Organizing Charity was really the first body that contained representatives from every part of the city. Already, it appears that there is a multiplication of Homes for the care of children; and, in a large proportion of cases, the children were rather the product of institutional life, moulded by uniform rules and unfitted for individual successful exertion, than trained to be useful members of good homes. The experience of all connected with charitable institutions for children, would show that often a numerous family would be rapidly reduced by securing admission for one child after another, until the whole generation was quietly shouldered upon some sort of charitable establishment. Then, when they were finally discharged, they were unfitted either for their own home or the new home found for them; because, in the institution, they had become mere machines, doing right under pressure; but that taken off, there was no training to keep them from at once joining the vicious classes. It was charged, for instance, that the children from the House of Refuge, once placed out or returned home, soon degenerated and

found their way to prison or worse. In point of fact, this was also said of the boys of Girard College, with all its great advantages. In fact, this was the result of institutional life, with its constant supervision, repression and restraint. Released from that, the natural tendency was to excess and abuse of freedom, and a rapid descent both in habits and character.

The "Sheltering Arms" proposes to work on the plan of finding homes, in families, for children of very tender years—which is the modern remedy for the bad effects of institutional homes—and to make its head-quarters a mere temporary home, a clearing house only, until a home in a family could be found for these little waifs. The home might be poor, the new family rough and rude, the surroundings untidy and uninviting, but it was home with home influences, and by a watchful care exercised by frequent and intelligent Visitors, it could be raised to a very high point of both moral and physical excellence. The child would unconsciously learn lessons of far more use than the manifold instruction and employment of the great institutions. Children, like men, learned to adapt themselves to hard and fast rules, just as it was to their advantage to do so, and in prisons the worst criminals made the best convicts; in Homes, the worst and most vicious children were often the most orderly, and thus secured a reputation for mere outward good conduct. The boy who came from a home where he had a fair share of license and freedom of action, naturally found restraint and discipline, such as was, no doubt, necessary for a large number of inmates, very irksome; and he was often punished for the violation of rules, well enough in themselves, but not of any real value as correcting vice or working a reformation of bad habits. The lad who was trained in crime and already a professional thief or other offender, had early learned the lesson of instant, complete and unreasoning submission to authority, and his natural quickness made him an apt scholar; so he ran successfully and rapidly through all the prescribed conditions and was soon entitled to his discharge, not one whit improved in morals, but only better fitted for some more dangerous offence against the law. What was true of the boys was largely true of the girls, and in Homes provided for them, there were few things taught that in any way fitted them to earn their livelihood outside, or to make them useful in their own or other households; but they were moulded into machines, readily used by some clever hand for mischief. The real remedy for all this was unceasingly to work to reduce the number of institutions, to lessen the number sent to them, to shorten the stay of their inmates, to try to make provision for the very young and helpless, and to find homes in families where the waifs of society could be sheltered and grow up to be wholesome boys and good girls, and useful men and women. To do this should be the aim of the Society for Organizing Charity, and of its members in their own Wards and in the institutions, with which nearly all of its members have an active share. It was no reflection on the officers and managers of existing Homes that this was the state of affairs. Many of them were started half a century ago, and were still working under charters and rules adopted then, and the early influences were still potent. Even many later Homes were merely reproductions of other earlier institutions, in new districts where growing population and wealth seemed to call for additional accommodation for the poor. But the lesson of to-day is to teach the poor to help themselves, to encourage families to hold together and to tide over bad times, to take the orphans where there were no near relatives who would care for them, and, just as soon as possible, find new families as homes for them.

The Society for Organizing Charity sends its Visitors out through the Wards of the city to tell the poor and the sick and the suffering where they can find temporary relief and assistance. That should be freely given in every case entitled to it, but with it should be given the most earnest advice to hold together, not to let a single child be taken from its proper place, the home, for the sake of the apparent ease and comfort alike to parent and child, of a place in a great charitable institution. The largest provision should be made for the class far too large for the credit of our city, of helpless waifs, for the care of sick children, and especially for those suffering from hereditary and infectious diseases, and in the same proportion should the family be preferred and encouraged rather than institutions.

PAUPERS OF PARIS.—It appears, from the census taken on December 18th, that Paris has 46,815 indigent households, numbering 123,735 persons. Among those who receive relief from the Assistance Publique, are men and women of all classes of society; the majority consisting of people of humble station.

SOCIETY'S WORK.

WOMENS' GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The February meeting was held on the 1st inst., at 10 A. M., with the President, Mrs. W. J. Gillingham, in the Chair, and Mrs. Martha Jones, Secretary.

Reports were received from 13 Wards, showing 1,560 friendly visit made; 69 medical visits supplied; 255 letters written on behalf of the poor; 418 new cases reported; 11 families graduated into independent condition; temporary employment furnished to 98, and permanent situations secured for 20; 11 were placed in hospitals and homes.

In two Wards, 52 children were placed in the Society's Kindergartens; 342 children had been entered in the public schools, and 59 were reported as out of school.

The inclement weather had, in some Wards, increased the number of cases of distress, and co-operative charitable work was reported as having diminished the amount of relief needed in others.

MRS. GAWTHROP, 15th Ward, called attention to the efforts of the 15th Ward Association, in arresting begging children. DR. J. W. WALK, the Superintendent, by request, detailed the mode of procedure and the success attained.

His plan was to have the Police bring such children to his office, instead of the Station House, and he merely detained them long enough to take their addresses and stories. So far, he found in all cases the children were frightened by their arrest and gave true facts. The cases were immediately investigated, and, if necessary, were relieved, and in all cases the law with its penalty was clearly explained to the parents.

In his opinion, the indefiniteness of the law, and consequent difference of legal opinion, necessitated the plan of detention rather than arrests, and when followed, there need be no fear of prosecution.

The alleged exemption of women, cripples, blind persons and children, was, by some lawyers, considered the weak point of the law, while others thought it did not interfere in the least with its action, but the CHAIR did not see the inconsistency, because of the clearly defined distinction between the two words "tramp" and "vagrant."

MRS. SPENCER, 7th Ward, instanced a case of a woman recently imposing on the public, to the extent of \$20, and asked if she could be arrested under the existing laws.

MISS C. K. MEREDITH, 8th Ward, referred to the law by which a policeman was entitled to 50 cents a head for such arrests, and asked why the men did not avail themselves of this form of increasing their revenue.

DR. WALK replied that this was an old law, in vogue before the police received regular salaries, and he thought it questionable if an officer would be allowed anything beyond his wages for merely performing his duty. But anyone could make a charge against a person, and the above woman could be brought before the authorities in that way.

In view of the uncertainty of the law and the need, either to make a test case of the law or an appeal to the Legislature, it was

Resolved, "That the subject of further legislation necessary for the protection of children from vagrancy, mendicancy, cruelty, etc., be presented to the Assembly Committee on Care and Education of Children, with the request to report to this Conference when prepared."

MISS NEWLIN, 9th Ward, offered a further Resolution, which was also carried, viz.:

"That the Conference request the Sub-Committee on Legal Protection of Children to inform the Visitors whether anyone arresting a child in the act of begging would be upheld by the law in all cases. If opinion is divided on this subject, could the Committee endeavor to procure legislation that will settle this point."

MRS. R. BLANKENBURG, 9th Ward, reported a conversation held with Magistrate List, in which he called her attention to the benefit that the members of the Conference might bestow by visiting the Station Houses when the inmates are brought up for trial. He also offered to meet the Conference and confer with them on this subject.

On motion, Magistrate List's offer was referred to the Committee of Arrangements.

The following paper, written by a lady in Boston, was presented and read by Miss Meredith:—

SEWING SOCIETIES.

As you have asked me to write down my objections to the societies for giving sewing to poor women, I will try to do so. It is a little difficult, on account of the different questions involved—some economical and some moral. With regard to the economical ones, I suppose it to be well established, that work is of no value, economically, which does not add to the value of the raw material; and I take as the standard of

value, the price at which a thing can readily and easily be sold to those who want it; (not to those who buy from charitable motives.) If, then, as I believe is the case in many of the sewing societies, the clothes are cut out by the ladies and sewed by the women, and then sold at the price of the material, the whole labor of the ladies in cutting out, and of the women in sewing, is, economically speaking, worthless; and if, as is sometimes the case, the garments do not sell readily even at this price, but an appeal has to be made to the charitable to buy them, the labor employed in making them is worse than worthless, having diminished the value of the raw material—and if the money were paid in a weekly pension to the women who now do the work, they would *pecuniarily* be as well off as now, and all their labor, as well as that of the ladies, would be saved. If, on the other hand, the work is sold at a trifling advance on the value of the material, that advance represents the real value of the labor, and the balance of the price paid to the women is a gift.

You must not understand me to approve of the payment of a weekly pension. I put the statement in that form merely to compare the effect with that of the sewing society. Of course, if the relief were given apart from the work, it would be given in times and ways adapted to the exigencies of each family, which the ladies, set free from their weekly cutting out, would have ample time to investigate.

Another principle, which I believe to be well established, is, that when any kind of labor is underpaid, it is a sign that the supply of it exceeds the demand, and the more you increase the supply, the more you lower the price; so that I see no reason to doubt, that the large amount of work provided by the different sewing societies; actually lowers the market price of similar labor, and this diminishes the earnings of the self-supporting poor. Again, the societies not only do work which has little or no value, but they do it in a wasteful way. Is it not evident that, if a woman has a dozen garments to make, it is better economy for her to take them all at once and return them when done, at such a time as will not interfere with her family cares, than to make a separate trip for each garment at a fixed time?

So far I have spoken only of the economical objections which seem to me to rest upon principles that cannot be denied. But, I know it is often said in reply, that the effect upon the women is much better of giving work than of giving relief in other ways. This, if true, would be a strong argument in favor of the societies. I believe the three principal advantages the women are supposed to gain from this form of relief are:

- 1st, That they learn industry;
- 2d, That they learn sewing;
- 3d, That they preserve their independence and self-respect.

With regard to the first, it seems to me that the making of one or two coarse garments a week, requiring no strenuous or continuous exertion of body or mind, cannot have much influence in forming habits of industry.

Secondly, really fine sewing cannot be taught in this way, and to teach women the coarser kinds of sewing with a view to their earning their living, is to put them into a business already overdone. I know it is said that they learn to make their own clothes, but the benefit even of this is, in the long run, doubtful; for a large amount of the ready-made clothing sold and given away by the sewing societies, passes into the hands of persons, who, if the material only were supplied to them, would be learning to make their own clothes, so that in this respect you lose at one end part, at least, of what you gain at the other. Moreover, why should people be paid for learning to do their own work?

Third, as to the feeling of independence. It is, no doubt, better for the poor to support themselves, and thus maintain their independence as long as possible; but is it well for them to think themselves independent when they are not so? If they receive weekly pay, and give in return labor, which to the employer is valueless, or nearly so, should they be encouraged to suppose that they are under no obligation to anyone? There are sometimes, I know, persons to whom we wish to do a favor, without having them know that they are receiving one; but I do not think such persons form any considerable part of the beneficiaries of the sewing societies, and if there are such there, that feeling would be more effectually spared by some more private form of relief. In most cases, gratitude is a more suitable emotion with which to receive favors than self-respect.

But the sewing societies not only teach imperfectly, if at all, sewing, industry and self-respect; they are teaching, I think with far more emphasis, lessons of political economy, a science which the poor study far more than is commonly supposed, though they may not know it by that name; and in which, erroneous teaching is pernicious to them, and perilous to the community. This teaching, conveyed in object lessons, and reiterated week by week, is put in the form most sure to impress

the ignorant, and to be remembered and acted upon. If I am right in what I have said before, it is false teaching, and, therefore, must in the end work mischief in one way or other. But there are two points in which its evil effects are especially obvious and direct. First, It makes an almost inextricable confusion in the minds of the poor between the claim for help and the claim for work—two claims distinct in their nature and often opposed. Help is due to persons in proportion to their need; work, in proportion to their skill—and the skill and the need are so often in inverse proportion to each other, that the attempt to meet both claims by the same process, tends to irritate both classes. The more skillful become jealous, and with reason, if the work is withheld from them in favor of those less skillful; while the more needy become jealous, and with reason too, if the help is withheld from them, in favor of those less needy.

Second, The price given by the societies, whatever the effort to keep it "fair" or "moderate," is very much higher than that given by wholesale dealers or contractors for similar work; therefore, when those employed by the societies seek work elsewhere, they naturally consider as oppressors, those who offer them only the market price for their work—a price kept below its natural limit partly by the sewing societies—and thus an enmity and jealousy is excited between employers and employed, capital and labor, which is one of the greatest of social dangers.

Much as is done for the poor by charity, far the greater part, perhaps all of their support, is drawn directly or indirectly from the regular processes of production and trade. If the bakers and the milkmen, the landlords and the factories were to conduct their business on the principles of the sewing societies, the poor, as well as the rest of us, would soon starve.—A WORKER IN THE BOSTON ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.

The Conference adopted an unanimous vote of thanks to the writer of this valuable and instructive paper, and requested that it be published in full in the MONTHLY REGISTER as early as practicable; whereupon the Conference adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The monthly ASSEMBLY was held on the 6th inst., at 1420 Chestnut Street, the President, Philip C. Garrett, in the Chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and approved, the following resolutions were submitted and passed unanimously:

From the Committee on the Education and Care of Children—

Resolved, "That the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity, be requested to provide, in connection with its Central Office, a Bureau of Children's Aid, which shall collect and supply free information to all inquirers, concerning institutions and private homes in which deserted or exposed children, of all ages, may be cared for."

The Committee on Provident Habits made a brief report concerning Postal Savings, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, "That the Board of Directors of the Society are hereby requested, if they deem it expedient, to memorialize Congress in behalf of Postal Savings Banks, and to request the simultaneous co-operation of the leading Relief Societies of this city, and also the Charity Organization Societies of other cities in the United States."

The Committee on Employment offered the following resolutions:—

Resolved, "That, at the next meeting of the Assembly, it be suggested that, whereas the subject of employment for children would overlap the subjects under the consideration of the Committee on the Education and Care of Children, the title of the Committee on Employment be altered to the Committee on Employment for Adults."—also,

Resolved, "That it is expedient that legislation be secured to effect the compulsory employment of persons who seek lodgings at the Station Houses, on the plan of the Wayfarers' Lodge of Boston."

The last resolution being directly connected with the topic for the evening, action upon it was deferred till the close of the discussion. The subject appointed for consideration was then taken up, being the same as in January, namely—

THE BEST METHODS OF DEALING WITH STREET BEGGARS,

and a paper prepared by Dr. Cadwalader was read by the Rev. Charles G. Ames, in which it was strongly urged that besides the application of the law, in commitments to the House of Correction, &c., &c., it was necessary to establish night-refuges, such as the Wayfarer's Lodge of Boston, with a suitable labor-test to discover the really needy and deserving cases. The House of Industry, 718 Catharine Street, was indicated as an admirable institution of this kind. Another should be established in the northern part of the city. For women and children, the Western Temporary Home, 24 North Fortieth Street, and the Tem-

porary Home, 505 North Sixth Street, might be available, whilst for colored women and children, the Home for the Homeless, 708 Lombard Street, could supply similar service. It had been proved, by actual experience, that the labor-test, together with the requirement that a bath be taken, is very efficacious in sifting the deserving from professional vagrants. The offices of the Ward or District Associations and the Societies might be supplied with cards of reference to the Wayfarer's Lodges; and the cards which are given out might be afterward redeemed by the Ward Associations or Societies using them. The superintendents of the Lodges, however, should have unfettered discretion as to the admission of applicants, and the depraved and drinking-class should be excluded, and thus forced into the Station Houses, and thence to the House of Correction. Public opinion should be stimulated to enforce the application of the law, and to cause a sufficient appropriation from Councils to maintain the latter institution. With such arrangements the public might be assured that suitable shelter and proper provision can be made for all cases, and, therefore, no pretext exists for the plea for money or assistance by beggars on the street or at the door.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY said that the public will not altogether resist the appeals of beggars on the streets and at house-doors, so long as there is no general provision, accessible at all times, to which they can be directed for shelter and relief. Dr. Cadwalader's paper points out a feasible plan. The Wood Yard, at 1720 Lombard St., is now self-supporting, and might be utilized either by extending it to include lodgings and meals, or by supplying work for the resident poor, heads of families, while temporarily unemployed. We have now 16 Ward Offices, in houses which are never closed except when the inmates have retired for the night; but our Superintendents are necessarily absent a large part of their time, making investigations and carrying out the decisions of their Directors, Visitors and Conferences. Places of refuge are therefore needed for men, women and children, to which wanderers and the homeless can be referred by those from whom they crave relief, with positive knowledge that reliable officers are always on hand to receive their applications.

He also gave some particulars concerning the Wayfarer's Lodge, established by the City of Boston, in January, 1879, under the department of Out-Door Poor. Accommodation was provided for 150 inmates, in three apartments; the Superintendent and Workmaster received warrants as special officers, and a regular patrolman was detailed to be in attendance from 11 o'clock until morning. Each inmate, before retiring to bed, takes a warm bath in a warm room, and retires to a clean bed in a clean night-dress. His clothes, left below, are subjected to super-heated steam, to kill all germs of disease and vermin. The food given consists of soup, chowder and beans, with bread and biscuit each meal, palatable and wholesome, and not stinted in quantity, costing five cents. About one-fifth come in hungry and partake of a supper. They rise at 6 o'clock in winter, or 5 in summer, partake of breakfast, do their cutting or sawing, which occupies two hours and go away. The total cost of the Lodge for 12 months was \$7,346.09, and 1,134 cords of wood were sold during that period. Instead of the Station Houses being crowded with some 200 cases nightly, as under the old system, the Lodge receives, on an average, 40 persons every night, and the streets are cleared of tramps and vagrants. In case of disturbance the aid of the police can be called by telephone, but such cases are rare. An able-bodied man, refusing to work after staying all night, is punished by 6 months imprisonment at hard labor. The Police Commissioners claims that this system shows a great improvement in health, morals and economy. A similar provision is made for women and children in another near locality, called the "Temporary Home for Women and Children," which is conducted on the same general plan. The women fed and sheltered are expected to return an equivalent in work, which consists of washing, scrubbing, etc., which service they render for both institutions. Last year the Home received 2,172 women and children, a number of lost children and foundlings being included among the juveniles. The expenses were \$6,994.

JOSHUA L. BAILY, Vice President of the House of Industry, said that how to deal with vagrancy was a very ancient problem, but not so much a conundrum as it used to be, for a great advance had been made towards its solution of late, and especially through the House of Industry. The House was established in 1848; he was elected manager in 1857, and has been a manager ever since, and may be said to have been brought up in the institution. We have a large house where meals and lodging are given to the poor. No charge is made for these meals and lodging. Some churches and societies send persons there and pay for them. But the Institution has not risen higher than giving present relief. Until a few years ago, we did not take hold of the idea of remedying pauperism and beggary, and for this we are greatly indebted to the Charity Organization

Society; and through it we have accomplished a great deal, at less expense than formerly. There are three classes of regular beggars—men, women and children. In regard to men beggars we must take into consideration that a large proportion of these belong to the criminal class, and are different from professional beggars. I look forward to the time when the State of Pennsylvania will pass a bill or resolution something like what Mr. Bullitt has suggested, so that all our public institutions for dispensing charity and correction may be brought together; and when that is done a large portion of the begging in this city will be cured. Another thing to stop begging in the streets is the "co-operation of the people."

A man or woman makes application for relief and tells a pitiful story, and he gets a dollar to help him. That only gets him over that day, and he wants another to-morrow, and so on every day. But if that dollar is spent in a wise way, and put in the way of making some permanent provision for him, his misery is cured. The Wood Yard, in Boston, has been referred to. He visited that place about two years ago, and found it very satisfactory. An immense work is done for the elevation of the man. The institution is self-sustaining. It has a superiority over ours, for it is sustained by the authorities. It is conducted in a very economical way.

Our Wood Yard, on Lombard Street, is very successful. It tests the sincerity of a man when he says he wants work. Four out of five will not perform the work assigned to them, and say they can get their living easier.

THE REV. J. D. LONG, of the Bedford Street Mission, prepared the following paper for the meeting:

"I am gratified to know that this Society has excited public attention to the crying evil of street begging. Philadelphia is noted for its equally distributed wealth, its charities and humanitarianism. Street begging should not exist here. All who are acquainted with street beggars, as a class, know that they are idle, untruthful and intemperate. This city has been a paradise of beggars and imposters. Business men, in business hours, are greatly annoyed by them. But can the evil be broken up? I would suggest, that the Central Board of the C. O. Society employ, at a good salary, an intelligent warm-hearted man as an out-door agent. Let him be clothed by our Chief Magistrate with authority to make arrests, if necessary. Let the Organization appeal to all good citizens and agents connected with charitable institutions, to send him all the information they possess, concerning beggars that apply to them. The agent of the Society, devoting all his time to the business of collecting facts concerning the past lives of professional beggars, would soon astonish the public with a mass of information relating to their impositions. Some might say, 'Why not use moral suasion with them?' During the fifteen years of my connection with the Bedford Street Mission I have, in no single instance, succeeded in persuading a professional beggar to give up his occupation. It has been said that the remedy, is, not to give to beggars. The people will give, especially the ladies. Nine persons may refuse to give, but the tenth one will. These tenth ones constitute a numerous class in this great city. The police cannot do it; they may assist; but they need, in many cases, an education by some expert. But I insist they have not the time to do the work thoroughly. As for that noble charity, the Society to Protect Children Against Cruelty, they are over-worked already, and deal only with children. The Charity Organization is the proper one to try the experiment, and the immediate good results would increase its usefulness."

EX-MAYOR FOX said that he was gratified and amazed as he looked around the room, filled as it was with intelligent people, whose minds and hearts were interested in this important matter. He remembered when it was the invariable custom of Philadelphians to get rid of beggars by handing them money. He had done it himself; but it was the way to make beggars. The custom should cease. In regard to the children found begging on the streets, the Society to Protect Children, of which he is President, had, in five years, rescued over 7,000 of these and other abused children. But when the Society had done its part, and the barbarous parents are punished, how are these children to be disposed of? The Hospitals, Homes, Asylums and the Ward Associations do co-operate, but still great difficulty exists. We will not send them to the Almshouse. We make a temporary shelter for them, but when we have 10 or 20 children on our hands, what can we do? Then, too, there are the deformed, the crippled and such like. The Court, having sentenced their parents, commits these crippled, helpless little ones to our care, but we cannot keep them for an indefinite period. The subject was very difficult. Mendicant children, too, were very shrewd, not easily caught by the police officers, and they were never at a loss for a pretext to beg.

MR. BENJ. J. CREW, of the same Society, said they did not take

hold of child-beggars, but remonstrated with their parents who sent them out to beg, and prosecuted them when necessary. Already we have done much good. Many parents allege insufficient wages, as justifying their practice, but the law made it a misdemeanor, and the children must not be sacrificed by such a ruinous and vicious course.

MR. HAROLD GOODWIN, 27th Ward, said that no member of the C. O. Society, or any other citizen, had authority to hold anybody by force, except he sees him committing a crime. A child found begging in the street, might be stopped and held by persuasion, and his name and abode ascertained; but neither children, nor men and women beggars might be held against their will at the Ward Office. What was most of all needed was, that the pitiful tales of beggars should be inquired into, and if found true, adequately relieved. Many people quiet their consciences by giving a trifle of money, utterly disproportionate to the needs of the case, as it is described by the applicant. Granted that the beggar's story is true—that there is a starving and freezing family at home—what a cruel absurdity is the petty dole to the man whose needs are so vast and pressing. This was not the manner of the good Samaritan, by any means; yet there are people, who, because they give alms without inquiry to street beggars, think they are imitating him.

MR. EDWIN PALMER, Secretary of the Managers of the House of Correction, referred, at some length, to the procedure of that institution in dealing with the unemployed and destitute; and, also, some of the reasons for the discharges from the House, before the sentences expired; specially mentioning insufficient appropriations by Councils, improper commitments by the Magistrates, hardship to families by locking up the bread-winners, and the fact that many men are committed as habitual drinkers who are simply on an occasional spree.

The resolution of the Committee on Employment was then unanimously adopted; the Committee on Arrangements also announced that the subject of "The Care and Education of Children" would be considered at the next meeting, and the Assembly then adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

FROM OUR FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

FOREIGN CHARITY ORGANIZATION ITEMS.

A LEADING ARTICLE in the *London Charity Organization Reporter*, for December 15, makes the following pertinent remarks:

"Is it really necessary that soup-kitchens and dinner-tables should be opened in an ordinary winter, when laborers have not been deprived of their means of livelihood for any great length of time? These charities are the very embodiment of inadequate periodical temporary relief; nothing injures the poor so much as charities which feed the body and weaken independence of spirit, that are a supplementation of wage, and lead, therefore, to the careless use of wages instead of to economy and thrift. Charity has no right to injure the poor by tempting them to recklessness; and, unless it performs a healing function, it does not justify its interference. The responsibilities of alms-givers must be realized as greater, not less; and it is the business of a Charity Organization Society to raise the standard of responsibility, instead of accepting that which it finds. Systematic relief of the poor, limited to the supply of food and other necessities of life, misleads the alms-giver into thinking he is doing very much, when, in fact, he is doing nothing. Each year the need of supply is more apparent, for each year the demand for it has been evoked and met. The appetites of the feeders are satisfied, but their hardihood and self-reliance are undermined; all that makes brave manhood and womanhood is enervated."

MAJOR C. C. FITZROY follows up this article with a letter in a later issue of the *Reporter*. Referring to an appeal for "Destitute Childrens' Dinners," he says: "If these children really are destitute, is it not a mockery to give them one or, at the most, two dinners a week? They want seven dinners and seven breakfasts and seven suppers. But, in truth, is any inquiry made to ascertain that they are in any degree destitute. Hungry, no doubt, they are, for there will always be found plenty of parents ready to qualify their children for the reception of a dinner at the cost of a halfpenny. If Jones' child gets a dinner one day, his neighbor Smith will say, 'Why should not my child have a dinner given to him too?' and so he sends him breakfastless and dinnerless to school; and so on from one to another. Meanwhile, the price of little Smith's dinner too often finds its way to the public house. In short, what we want is thorough adequate relief of those who really need it, not these miserable palliations, which only fritter away money which is much needed by the deserving poor. The Poor Law is ready to deal with the mass, and Organized Charity should take the exceptional

cases. If it be answered to this, that the administration of the Poor Law is not as good as it ought to be, and that Organized Charity is a heartless affair, let those who would do real good to their poorer brethren join in the work of improving that administration, and not be content with sending their guineas or five-pound notes to some one else to distribute."

SIR CHARLES TREVELYAN, speaking at a public meeting of the Newcastle Charity Organization Society, maintained that vagrants were essentially a criminal class; lived by stealing and intimidation; the demoralizing influence of such a class could not be measured; the amateur Mendicity Society, with its tickets and night-refuges, had been proved totally insufficient to meet this deep seated evil; in the vast majority of cases the public gave to vagrants not from benevolence, but fear; detention in work-houses was not sufficient; as a criminal system, tramping could be dealt with adequately only through the police.

WOMEN AS GUARDIANS OF THE POOR may be expected to attack pauperism on its most assailable side, by dealing with the children, and to substitute the boarding-out and cottage-block system for the barrack-like schools. They will see and expose many evils to which the male mind remains blind or indifferent; yet it will be a mistake to regard the appointment of women-guardians as the one thing needful. An exclusively female Board, or a Board with a majority of female members, would not be likely to work well. One sex must not be run against the other. Rather, considerations of sex should be, as far as possible, excluded in favor of the one object which really deserves attention, namely, the appointment of persons, whether men or women, with sufficient will, ability and time at disposal to effectually discharge the duties of "guardians of the poor."

TRIFLES.—The Executive Committee of the York Charity Organization Society, says—

"Some good people, when urged not to give indiscriminately, say, 'What is the harm in giving away trifles? Giving a little can do no harm!' 'Your Committee desire to state, emphatically, that the giving away of trifles does great harm, for the system encourages vice, discourages industry, lessens the self-respect of the recipients, and wastes means which might afford adequate help to the really deserving.'"

MINISTERS AND ALMS.—Several London clergymen took strong ground against being required to distribute alms, at the general meeting of the Islington Charity Organization Committee. One stated that at first he administered his charity himself, but found that he was often deceived and robbed, and taken in in many ways. Now he gave no relief personally, as he had not time to make thorough investigation. The resolution asked ministers and clergymen to exercise great self-denial in separating almsgiving from spiritual work, for it was only natural that they should like to have the patronage of the funds they had to disburse. But to act in the proposed way was to give the clergyman much greater power. He could go the poor with the words of the apostle: 'Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I thee'—counsel, sympathy, wise advice, and direction to those who would help. He found; where churches were in close proximity, they seemed almost to be outbidding each other in giving to the same people. The waste of Charity was great, but the moral injury to the recipients was much greater.

Another had learned, by experience, that much of the relief given by him went to the public house, and that his food tickets were put up at auction. He was sure that the clergy had not time to distribute Charity properly and with full investigation. They were placed in the position of inept relieving officers, and in their visits to the poor they had too often the consciousness that what was uppermost in the minds of those visited was, "what are you going to give us?" He asked to be relieved of all this. He had concluded that it was a Charity Organization Society that the Apostles formed when they set apart the seven deacons for relief work.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

Boston, Feb. 1st, 1882.

It was a beautiful afternoon when the day before Christmas a number of ladies and gentlemen, constituting the committee of visitors for Ward 7, started out on the pleasant errand of carrying to their poor friends, gifts and evergreens, to make for each family a Christmas at home. They had agreed among themselves some time before, that there were many objections to a large Christmas tree in public, yet, even were no objections to be found, the superior pleasure of having a Christmas tree all to oneself will easily be understood. The family life of the working

man is his sheet anchor—no club, no coffee house, no meeting can ever take the place of that, and failing this resource life can be but a weight and a solitude to the rich as well as the poor.

For the poor man deprived of any comfort in the little chamber he calls his own, where loving care should await the tired workman by noon and by night, there are temptations on every side to lead him astray. He is easily persuaded from the dirty room, crying children, and badly choked dinner, to the comfortable drinking house hard by his work, and alas! who can find heart to blame him altogether for this.

Therefore more and more in our experience "among the homes of the poor" (the very word seems often a mockery) we recognize that any help we can give toward the development of family feeling, even if it be only once a year in the holy Christmas season, as a good which strikes deeper than the pleasure of the hour.

Numbers of little trees were carried into such homes as these to which we have referred, on Christmas eve. The larger number went unheralded save by the general sense of the coming holiday.

In one room the visitors found a pretty picture which lingers with them. There was a clean room and a young mother, like a Madonna, holding her sick baby; other children were playing about the room; the evening lamp was already lighted, and everything was made ready for the father's return, but the mother was a little tired and sat quietly with her babe on her knee to watch us while we made the tree stand steadily and hung upon it presents for the children. Here was a joy for many days which belonged to each member of the household. Surely no one was more pleased than the mother with these trifles unless it were the father, who soon returned to find his home made beautiful for the time, by the blessing of Christmas day found already resting upon it.

There were sharp contrasts of course. We were laden with gifts for one poor distracted family, where the father and husband had lately been sent to the Island for drunkenness; unhappily upon one of those short sentences which are a constant reproach to those who consider this serious question, and he had returned after an absence of only ten days, (it was a fourth commitment) to make worse disorder than ever. The children were locked in the room, the mother was at work, the father "in good condition to be sent away again" the landlady assured us. There was no place for our little tree, nobody to protect the gifts, no chance for the encouragement we hoped to convey to the heart of the poor mother. So we sorrowfully brought our treasures away again, leaving behind with the good hearted landlady a few trifles for the children, to be cared for till the proper time.

In considering "Christmas at home" among the eighty families who were remembered on this anniversary, it is hard to refrain from further illustrations, but these will be sufficient to present the question to a thoughtful people who "consider the poor."

You may remember the story you published of a poor English game-keeper stranded in our city, whose previous occupation seemed to fit him for no sort of American work. Some money was loaned to establish him in the business of carrying round hot coffee, to sell to working people at their dinner hour, in the hope of lessening their use of intoxicating drinks.

It proved that in doing this he met a real need, there was a steady demand for his coffee, as soon as the workmen were convinced that it was a business matter and that no charity was connected with it. On this point they were very jealous. He has repaid his loan and bought a larger can and is now selling on an average 128 cups full a day.

He reports this winter that four other men have been led by his success, to go into the same business, each on a different beat. The head of an establishment which employs a large number of people has been so pleased with the plan that he has given the use of a small room in his building to one of these men where he makes his own coffee. The other men all buy it ready made.

THE CHESTNUT HILL RELIEF ASSOCIATION reports eminent success in dealing with the "tramp nuisance." Since the "tramp kitchen" was established, three years, ago, the number of vagrants passing through has been diminished by more than 50 per cent. The cordial co-operation of the police authorities is gratefully acknowledged.

STATISTICS OF THE BLIND.

From the Forty-ninth Annual Report of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, just issued, it appears that there has been an absolute, as well as a proportional increase in the number of blind persons in this State. The whole number, according to the last Census, is 3,907, or 1 in every 1,070 of the population. The number of the blind in Philadelphia is stated to be 968; but deducting 140 in this

institution (as non-residents,) the number is, more correctly, about 828, or 1 in every 1120 persons. Assuming the population of the United States to be 50,000,000, and the ratio the same as that of Pennsylvania, the whole number of blind persons would be about 46,730. General Walker states that "the large increase over 1870, in the number reported, is undoubtedly due to the far greater pains taken in 1880 in collecting the statistics of this class of persons." The *semi-blind* are included in these figures, and are estimated at 25 per cent. of the whole number. In view of the necessity of relieving the Working and Industrial Homes of the infirm and aged, of both sexes, the experienced Principal of the Pennsylvania Institution proposes the establishment of a Retreat for the Infirm and Aged Blind. If the industrial character of the existing Homes is to be maintained, such a provision seems an absolute necessity, and the proposal can hardly fail to attract the sympathy of the benevolent.

NOTES.

DR. HOLLAND ON PAUPERISM.

The following extract from the late Dr. Holland's "Nicholas Minturn," besides its proper value as showing the clearness and breadth of his conceptions of the great social problem, derives a special interest from his sudden and lamented death. He had evidently thought much and to good purpose on pauperism and charity.

"Nicholas, with all the hopefulness of his temperament, and all the confidence that was engendered by his persistent activities and their grateful results, had many hours of doubt and discouragement. The longer he lived in the city, the larger it seemed to him. The more he became acquainted with the sources of pauperism, and comprehended the influences which fostered it, the more incurable it appeared. The unwillingness of the pauperized masses to be lifted from their degradation, the organized falsehood that prevailed among them, their disposition to transform all the agencies that were employed for their help into means for enabling them to live without work, their absolute loss of all manly and womanly impulses and ambitions, their intemperance, their apparent lack of power to stand even when placed upon their feet with a remunerative task before them, were circumstances which, in some moods of his mind, so sickened and disgusted him that he felt like retiring from the field.

He saw at the corner of every street the magazines of liquid death doing their poisonous work on body and soul, licensed and cherished by the politics of a great city, and intrenched behind the strongholds of law and public opinion. He saw comfortable men going in day after day, and coming out poor and debauched, imbibing with their intoxicating and debasing draughts the habits of idleness which inevitably made paupers of them and of their wives and children. He saw ten thousand grog-shops absorbing not only the hard earnings of the poor, but the mistaken gifts of the benevolent, who were trying to give them bread. He saw uncounted masses of men, women and children, poisoned through and through with drink, and dark figures moving among them inflamed to cruelty and crime; and he realized that the little he had done to stem this tide of degradation was only to be compared to the holding of his hand in the rapids of a Niagara. He looked around him, among the rich and the good, and saw them apathetic—overawed by, or content with, the respectability of a traffic and a practice which were the daily source of more misery, debasement, poverty and crime, than any which he knew, and felt that he was regarded by them as a weak enthusiast, or an impracticable fanatic. No voice of warning that he could raise would be heard amid the jeers of the scoffing crowd. No importunities for reform that he could utter would be thought worthy of a hearing!

Then he looked about him to count up the influences for relief. He had studied these in every aspect, with persistent inquiry. He had visited the hospitals, the charitable guilds, the great societies. He had found much conscientious labor in progress, but everything was for relief, and next to nothing for reform. Pauperism had been accepted as a fixed fact, and the great anxiety of the benevolent societies seemed to be to ward off suffering. Their work was done if nobody starved or froze. The causes of pauperism had little consideration, and less attempt to remove them. On one sidelay the great world of poverty, and suffering, and deliberately chosen helplessness. On the other, the benevolent endeavor to shield this world of helplessness from the consequences of its dissipations, its idleness and its misdeeds. Now and then undoubtedly, worthy poverty was helped; but in nine cases out of ten, pauperism was cherished. People had learned to live upon these societies. They knew that in the last resort—however basely they might part with their means of living earned in fitful labor, or picked up in the street from door to door—they would not be permitted by these societies to starve. He saw, too, that the disease of pauperism was infectious, and

that even those who had the means of living hid them, and with the basest lies, cheated the societies into their support.

More than all this, and sadder even than all this, he saw that these associations were in competition with each other for the public support, and that their officers were magnifying their importance at the expense of their neighbors,—that they were the nurseries of political and church influence, and schemes for office, and personal support and aggrandisement. He saw petty jealousies among them, and heard the bruited of rival claims to consideration and usefulness.

Outside of these he saw an army of devoted Christian workers, engaged in the almost fruitless attempt to make Christians of those who had not the energy, or truthfulness, or ambition, to be men. Even these were engaged in rivalry. Sect was striving with sect for the possession of children,—for the privilege of teaching them,—holding them by the power of gifts and amusing entertainments. Sympathising profoundly with the aims of these workers, but distrusting their means and machinery, he could hope for but little in the way of useful results. Here and there he could find a man who understood the work to be done—a man who understood that he could do little for a child whose home, in every influence, was wrong. Where there was one of these, however, there were a hundred whose influence was tributary to, and confirmatory of, the pauperism in which the children of their Sunday charge had their birth and daily life. They were instructed without being developed. The chapels and school-rooms instituted by the churches had the fixed and everlasting fact of pauperism for their corner-stone. There the teeming generation of paupers were to come and go, without even the opportunity to develop themselves into self-supporting schools and churches, or to attain any influence that would be tributary to their sense of manhood and womanhood. Building without a basis for issues without value, there were thousands of Christian men and women spending time and comfort and money. They were winning much for themselves; they were doing but little for others.

This awful chasm between the rich and the poor!—what would come of it? This nether world and this upper world!—how could they be brought together? Envy upon one side, pity upon the other!—how could these widely separated realms be made to understand each other? How could they be brought into mutual sympathy and mutual respect?

These were the great facts and great problems that stared the young man in the face at every angle of vision. Surface views, surface work, surface results, everywhere! Nothing radical anywhere! much for palliation, nothing for cure! A world of benevolent intent and beneficent action, more than a moiety of which went to the nourishment of the monster who held the pauperized poor in its toils!

'Twas on a bitter winter's day.
I saw a strange, pathetic sight;
The streets were gloomy, cold and gray,
The air with falling snow, was white,
A little ragged beggar child
When running through the cold and storm;
He looked as if he never smiled,
As if he never had been warm.
Sudden, he spied beneath his feet
A faded buttonhole bouquet,
Trampled and wet with rain and sleet,
Withered and worthless, there it lay.
He bounded, seized it with delight,
Stood still and shook it free from snow:
Into his coat he plunged it tight,—
His eyes lit up with sudden glow.
He sauntered on, all pleased and proud,
His face transformed in every line;
And lingered that the hurrying crowd
Might chance to see that he was fine.
The man who threw the flowers away,
Never one half such pleasure had;
The flowers' best work was done that day
In cheering up that beggar lad.
Ah me, too often we forget,
Happy in these good homes of ours,
How many in this world are yet
Glad even of the withered flowers!

CASES.

Case No. 109—Where there's a will there's a way. One of our Visitors had charge of an idle, thriftless family, from another county, with no claim on Philadelphia; and it was ascertained that they could do better if they were sent back to their old home. The ease of living off Charity here, however, made them very loath to depart, although all the arrangements were made for them to return. Three successive days the Visitor went to see them off in vain, and at last sat by while they packed their things, accompanied them to the station, and remained until she had put them in the cars, and finally saw them carried off by a train. Thus the city was relieved of another set of vicious idlers.

*Case No. 110—*Many think that Organized Charity is "hard" because it refuses small doles where self-reliance would be weakened, idleness encouraged, or drinking habits gratified thereby. It would rather expend \$50 on permanent help than 50 cents on inadequate and aggravating "relief." One of our Associations, supporting its work with difficulty, reports a single grant of \$20 for a rolling-chair for a paralytic widow under its care.

All Charity Organization Societies are in fraternal league and regular communication with each other, the world over, and are at liberty to call upon each other for co-operation as occasion offers. Two recent cases illustrate the humane and kindly advantages of such connection.

*Case No. 111—*A letter was received from our corresponding Society, in another city, referring to us, for investigation, a letter dated at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, addressed to one of their well-known citizens. The letter appealed piteously for help. The citizen had known the writer some time back, but had no recent knowledge of him. A prompt examination resulted in finding a young man of good training and abilities, who had made \$40 a week, for years, as an expert negro minstrel, and with the lavishness of his profession, he had spent as fast as he had earned; so that, when a tumor seized his throat and compelled him to lay by, he immediately came to want. His clothing and personal property were soon pawned and the proceeds consumed for board, and his fellow-minstrels aided him until their ability gave out. Then came cold, hunger and almost despair, under which depression he wrote the above letter. No stain of vice or immoral living here attached to him, although the examination of his record was searching. The result being reported, with the fact that the Society had hope of procuring other suitable employment for him, the citizen sent on an ample supply of funds for his relief and maintenance, to be disbursed by the Society. A good place was soon found at \$20 a week, and arrangements for hospital help were made against the time for a surgical operation. The young man found a friend in need, a step towards a better life was made, and the citizen friend had an assurance that he was doing an intelligent as well as humane action, through a pains-taken and argus-eyed agency.

*Case No. 112—*A British C. O. Society (Newcastle-on-Tyne.) wrote that a man had left a wife and large family, under its care, to seek work in America. The last advice from him was dated in Philadelphia, saying that he had a good situation, at good wages, but he was just recovering from small-pox and would not write again until he could send money for the family to follow him. Months passed and no word was received from him, and the Newcastle C. O. Society appealed to us to hunt him up, saying, "they are people of good character, and she expresses the utmost confidence in him; we fear, however, that something must have happened to him, as she has repeatedly written without receiving any help, and is now despairing and in great distress."

With such clues as were given to us, we searched him out and found him, although he was here known by another name, formed by dropping one syllable and altering another. He was found still doing well, and anxious to have his family here, but ashamed to communicate until he could send sufficient funds for their transportation—which the cost of his sickness and his loss of wages had interfered with. The condition of his family and the effects of his silence were made known to him, letters and remittances were resumed, his family were duly relieved, and he found friends here to help him in his project of bringing over his family as soon as he had home and means provided for them. Being a good skilled workman, temperate and well esteemed by his employers, the prospect is that they will make a thrifty and well-ordered addition to our city. It would have been very difficult for any other Organization to have searched out the case and effected all that our multimethod methods and advantages enabled us to do so promptly.

FOR SALE AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE.

DANGEROUS CLASSES OF NEW YORK. BY CHARLES L. BRAOE.		By mail.
Large 12 mo; 468 pages; cloth.	\$1.25	1.40
WISDOM IN CHARITY. BY CHARLES G. AMES. 8 vo. pamphlet; 16 pages; per 100		
[Single copies free on receipt of postage stamp.]	3.00	3.00
ESSAYS BY OCTAVIA HILL. 8 vo. pamphlet, 34 pp.	.10	.12
PHASES OF CHARITY. BY S. H. GURTEEN. 12 mo.; paper; 79 pp.	.25	.27
MANUAL FOR VISITORS, AND CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY TO THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OF PHILA. 12 mo.; 217 pp.; cloth; (with Chart, if desired.)	.50	.55
BOUND VOLUME OF ALL PAPERS issued by the Society during its first year. 8 vo., over 300 pp.	.50	.60
Peerless Files for MONTHLY REGISTER,	.60	.65

The following forms are suggested to those who are disposed to contribute by Will to the benevolent objects of this Society:

FOR BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, the sum of..... Dollars.

FOR A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE.

I give and devise unto the PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR ORGANIZING CHARITY, its successors and assigns forever, all that certain, etc.

The Monthly Register

Of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity.

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

VOL. III, NO. 6. }
WHOLE NO. 31. }

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 15, 1882.

TERMS, 50 CTS. A YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, 5 CTS. }

THE MONTHLY REGISTER, the authorized periodical of THE SOCIETY, is conducted by an Editorial Committee, appointed by the Directors. Address communications to THE MONTHLY REGISTER, 1602 Chestnut Street. Terms FIFTY CENTS a year, including postage, with a reduction for large orders. Make money orders payable to JAS. W. WALK, M. D.

Entered at the Post Office at Philadelphia as Second Class matter.

THE OBJECT OF THIS SOCIETY

Is the promotion of whatever tends to the permanent improvement of the condition of the poor: it endeavors—

- 1st. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and ascertain their true causes.
 - 2d. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving.
 - 3d. To secure the community from imposture.
 - 4th. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved.
 - 5th. To make employment the basis of relief.
 - 6th. To elevate the home-life, health and habits of the poor.
 - 7th. To prevent children from growing up as paupers.
- By bringing about co-operation among all Charitable agencies.
By a system of registration to prevent imposture.
By securing thorough investigation and the most suitable action in all cases.
By obtaining from existing Charities the precise help needed; or
By giving relief when immediate aid is needed, and when all other sources fail.
By a system of visiting which shall substitute friendliness for alms, and inspire to thrift, self-respect, and better modes of life.
By careful study of the causes of pauperism, and of the best methods of dealing with destitution and degradation.

Annual Membership \$5.00; Life Membership \$500.

The Gen'l Sec'y, Dr. James W. Walk, will furnish full information.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Benj. H. Shoemaker, Esq., 209 N. 4th Street, or to the Central Office, 1602 Chestnut Street.

MEETINGS UNTIL MAY 15TH.

Saturday,	April 15, 8	P. M., Superintendents' Meeting.*
Monday,	April 17, 4.30	P. M., Assembly Committee on Legal Protection of the Poor.*
Monday,	April 24, 8	P. M., Board of Directors.*
Monday,	May 1, 8	P. M., Assembly.†
Wednesday,	" 3, 10	A. M., Women's General Conference.‡
Saturday,	" 6, 4	P. M., Assembly Committee on Children.*
Monday,	" 10, 8	P. M., Board of Directors.*

*At the Central Office.

†At 1420 Chestnut Street.

‡At Y. M. C. A. Building, S. E. corner 15th and Chestnut Streets.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Who find this paragraph marked with a blue pencil are thus reminded that their subscriptions have expired, and are requested to renew the same promptly. With them the money involved is but a small sum; with us it is hundreds of dollars in the aggregate.

No one can afford to disregard the questions herein treated, for they affect the moral, political and pecuniary welfare of the community. We ask each one to aid us in this effort to promote the permanent elevation of the poor and the wisest relief of the distressed. A good work may be done by bringing the paper to the notice of thoughtful friends. You can

GET A COPY FREE FOR ONE YEAR

by sending us \$2.00, with the address of four other new subscribers.

This paper has been accepted as the official organ of the following Societies:—

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF BUFFALO.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF CINCINNATI.
ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES OF DETROIT.
CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS.
ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEW HAVEN.

EDITORIAL.

MR. KELLOGG'S RESIGNATION.

MR. CHARLES D. KELLOGG has just resigned the office of General Secretary of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity in order to accept a similar position in connection with the Associated Charities of the city of New York. Mr. Kellogg has served the Philadelphia Society for the last three years, and the success of our whole movement in this City is largely due to his wisdom, his activity, his warm devotion to the work, and clear understanding of its principles. The following resolution unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors, well expresses the feeling with which his removal will be generally regarded by the intelligent friends of our cause throughout the City:

Resolved, That in accepting, with sincere regret, the resignation of Mr. Charles D. Kellogg, we desire to place on record our sense of the high value of his official services as General Secretary, which have contributed in many important ways to the establishment and usefulness of this Society; and to assure him of our warm personal regard, our sorrow for the discontinuance of relations which have been uniformly pleasant, our confidence that he will carry to his new field of labor rare qualifications for success, and our cordial wishes for his happiness and prosperity.

DR. JAMES W. WALK, who has served efficiently as Superintendent of the 15th Ward Association, has been elected to the office of General Secretary for the remainder of Mr. Kellogg's unexpired term.

THE "REGISTER" AS AN ORGAN.

Although the political associations of the term "organ" are somewhat unsavory, it is difficult to dispense with it as a serviceable expression. An "organ" is indispensable as a medium of communication amongst fellow-workers, and every reason for sustaining one, in connection with political parties, or literary pursuits, or social movements, may be urged with special force in the cause of Charity Organization.

Its aims and principles are still misapprehended and misrepresented, and, as a consequence, efficient co-operation in charitable effort, that "consummation so greatly to be wished," is only rarely attained. Prejudices against the movement are not to be easily dislodged by any means; the only hopeful course is to diffuse the truth patiently and watchfully "line upon line." Dealing, as we do, with erroneous methods of charity, which seem to be sanctioned by the most venerable usages, and which certainly root themselves in living and imperishable principles, the truth which we hold can prevail only as we show ourselves able to demonstrate that our method has all that is valuable in other methods, and avoids their besetting evils and dangers. For this purpose it is absolutely necessary to chronicle facts and experiences as they arise, at the same time deducing from them their peculiar lessons.

The progress of the cause also supplies special reasons for sustaining a periodical or "organ," in which workers in this cause, laboring in various localities and amidst different surroundings, may compare notes, and interchange thoughts and views. With the increase of population in our great cities, other phases of the vast problem may be expected to present themselves, and in the smaller towns and villages there will be need of the enlightened counsel and disciplined zeal which the larger communities have acquired.

WOMEN AS GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.

A Society has been formed in England to promote the election of women on the Boards of the Guardians of the Poor. In the thirty Boards of the metropolis there are eight women, and it is probable that this number will be increased at the election now at hand. The candidature of suitable women is greatly hampered by the restriction that a Guardian

must be, himself or herself, a rate-payer. This requirement has the effect of excluding many married women who would undertake the duty, and also many single women who are living with their parents or other relatives. It is proposed to move the legislature to abolish this rate-paying qualification; and, meanwhile, steps are being taken to induce competent ladies to purchase or rent houses, and thus obtain the necessary qualifications in those districts where they are most needed. The London *C. O. Reporter* justly observes that the presence of women on the Boards will encourage the hopes of those who believe in attacking pauperism on its most assailable side, by dealing with the children, and substituting the boarding-out and cottage-block system for that of large barrack-like establishments. Women may also be expected to see and expose evils to which the male mind is either blind or indifferent.

PAWNING AS A PREVENTIVE OF PAUPERISM.

Enlightened charity will spend more effort on the prevention than it does on the cure of pauperism. Amongst preventive measures, experience commends the carefully-guarded offer of small loans, enabling the poor to tide over temporary distress, the self-respect and conscientiousness of the distressed persons not being endangered, as might be the case with money received as a gift. In this line of remedial action it has been suggested that something might be done with the "pawn-shop." The mention of this institution, in such a connection, will probably surprise many whose knowledge of it is derived from American or British traditions and observation. In some parts of Europe, however, notably in France, it is carried on under State patronage and control. The *Mont-de-Piété*, as it is called by the French, is free from all taint or disrepute. The funds of the government support it, and the business is managed with a view both to the accommodation of the public and to the advantage of the State. The rate of interest charged is low, and all the profits of the business go into the public treasury. A writer in *Harper's Magazine* calls attention to the Collateral Loan Bank of Boston, which was founded some years ago under the name of the "Pawners' Bank," as a practical illustration of what might be done in this direction. By the terms of its charter, the bank was allowed to charge on its loans $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. a month, or 18 per cent. a year. The dividends to the stockholders were limited to 8 per cent., and all excess of profits, after the payment of expenses, was to be spent in the free distribution of coal to the poor, during the months of December, January and February, under the supervision of the Town Council. The business has been so large and so lucrative, notwithstanding that in the immense majority of cases, the security deposited was promptly redeemed, that the charges have been reduced, and the wages of all employed in the establishment increased. The writer forcibly contends that it is practicable to organize an institution, which shall combine the advantages of a pawners' bank and a savings' bank, and thus enable the poor to lend to the poor. When it is remembered that 72 per cent., or 6 per cent. a month, is the regular charge for pawn-broking, it is plain that there is opportunity for intelligent philanthropy to work without any danger to sound economical principles.

COFFEE HOUSES AND COFFEE PALACES.

Under this heading the Rev. James Freeman Clarke has compiled an account of the movement in Great Britain to establish coffee-houses as a means of promoting temperance. This interesting little work—32 pp., large 12 mo., price 20 cents, and published by George H. Ellis, 141 Franklin Street, Boston—is the substance of two small publications on the subject, which have appeared in England during the last two or three years. All who have taken any interest in this effort to counter-work the attractions of the liquor-saloons, will be gratified to learn that the progress, so far, is highly encouraging. There is every reason to regard the movement as now beyond the experimental stage. It has been demonstrated that the "coffee publics" are a financial success. In two years, not less than 53 companies were incorporated, and the number of houses now open for business is between 2500 and 3000. At the close of 1879, there were four Societies in London, with 39 houses, paying 4 per cent. on the capital; in Hull, there were 11 houses, paying 10 per cent.; in Birmingham, 16 houses, paying 10 per cent.; in Liverpool, 35 houses, paying 10 per cent.; in Glasgow, 42 houses, paying 5 per cent.; in Leicester, 6 houses, paying 6 per cent.; in Edinburgh, 6 houses, paying 10 per cent. With such profits there is no reason why they should not be indefinitely extended. It is found that one type of house will not answer for every locality: the "palace" suits one neighborhood, the less stylish "tavern," or "cocoa-rooms" suits another. Some idea of the prospects of this beneficent

movement may be formed from the fact that the Manchester Coffee Tavern Company reported an average weekly attendance, at their 8 houses, of 65,000 persons, or rather more than 1100 at each house daily.

In the concluding paragraph Mr. Clarke says: "In this country little has thus far been done. In Philadelphia, one or more coffee-houses have been established, and are now attractive and self-supporting. In New York, the coffee-houses have been suspended, owing to causes which are believed to be temporary. The coffee-house in Boston, recently opened at 851 Washington Street, has met with such success that the "Oriental Coffee-House Company" are now proposing to establish five others, in different parts of the city;" and he justly adds, "but many more will be necessary. With 2000 drinking saloons, licensed by the City Government, we want, at least, 50 or 100 bright, pleasant coffee-houses, to present better attractions to those who need some place of cheerful and innocent resort."

The wide circulation of Mr. Clarke's compilation is much to be desired.

A HANDBOOK OF CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

This volume which was announced in the last REGISTER as in the press, is now published. The author, the Rev. S. Humphreys Gurteen, has manifestly undertaken the work purely out of love to the cause, for this handsome octavo of 250 pp., printed in good, clear type on toned paper is offered at \$1.50. Mr. Gurteen's qualifications for preparing such a book are well-known. He has studied the subject with the ardor of a philanthropist, and also with the keen eye and practical common sense of a man of business. "The historical retrospect," as he styles the introductory chapter, is very interesting and valuable. He shows plainly that the old ideas of charitable relief, which still prevail so widely, and with such mischievous effects, ought not to be denounced as false, but are rather out of date and obsolete, the conditions of society having changed. Whilst communities were comparatively small, and bound together by the bonds of a common faith, the Church could enforce her discipline, and dispense alms with discrimination. When that state of things had passed away, the evils of increasing idleness, pauperism and vice, provoked the intervention of the State to repress and extirpate them, but all in vain. The next method was the present poor-law system, in which the Municipalities undertook the task which the Church and the State had each found too hard, and the last stage of the problem is that of voluntary organization. After this review of the successive methods of dealing with pauperism and want, some particulars are given of the formation of the celebrated Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Elberfeld plan, the London Charity Organization Society, and similar societies of the United States. No mention is made here of the statesmanlike scheme of Dr. Chalmers for St. John's parish, Glasgow, of which however, in another place, Mr. Gurteen speaks in terms of emphatic eulogy.

In the next chapter the several phases of charity are discussed at length for the twofold purpose of meeting the various objections to the modern movement, and to illustrate its leading features and aims. Subsequent chapters describe several aspects of modern charity work—improved dwellings, the Creche, the Provident Dispensary, and woman's work, and present the details of the work of the Buffalo Society, with which the author has been most intimately associated from the first. The last fifty pages are occupied with suggestions and hints for practical work, and a list of books on the subject of Charity to which the modern movement has given birth.

Naturally enough, Mr. Gurteen gives prominence to the Buffalo plan, of which he is entitled to speak with intelligent confidence, as it has proved a rare success; but if in a future edition he should throw the light of comparative studies on the question of organization, his work would acquire a still higher value.

THE CANADIAN COURTS will be a terror to brutal and cruel parents if the sentences in a recent case are carried out, as in all probability they will be. Edward and Clara Peters were convicted, on March 28th, of the murder, by torture and starvation, of their adopted child, a boy of seven years. The man, as the principal in the crime, is to be hanged on April 28th, and his wife is sentenced to ten years' imprisonment with hard labor, in the Kingston Penitentiary. The Society for the Protection of Children from Cruelty have reason to be encouraged by the evident quickening of the public conscience concerning such crimes.

PHILADELPHIA ALMSHOUSE.—The monthly report, presented at the last meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, gives the following census of the house: Total population, on March 25th, 2,440; a decrease

of 194, as compared with the same time last year, and of 78 on the report of last month. During the preceding four weeks, there were admitted, 368; births, 10; deaths, 67; discharged, 337; eloped, 52; indentured, 6; persons granted lodgings, 23; granted meals, 47. Value of goods manufactured during the month, \$3,618.81; average number of men employed, 81.

THE SECOND VOLUME of the papers issued by the Society and its several Ward Associations, covering the second and third fiscal years of its existence, ending October 1st, 1881, is now ready, and is for sale at the Central Office, at \$1.50, which scarcely covers the cost of binding. It will be sent by mail for \$1.75 cents a copy.

A TABULAR STATEMENT, recently issued, showing a part of the work of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, is very gratifying reading. Policy, gambling, and the circulation of obscene publications are becoming dangerous acts. During the past year, 51 persons were convicted or pleaded guilty, and fines amounting to \$8,281 were imposed, in addition to the various terms of imprisonment. The law, plainly, is now a terror to evil-doers.

SOCIETY'S WORK.

WOMEN'S GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The regular meeting was held on April 6th at 10 A. M., and in the absence of the President, MRS. BLANKENBURG was called to the Chair.

Reports were presented from 12 Wards, showing 1241 friendly visits made; 207 medical visits supplied; 121 visits made and 71 letters written on behalf of the poor; 306 new cases; 41 families rendered independent of charitable relief; total number of cases aided, 401, showing a great decrease upon the report of last month, due in part to the advance of milder weather, and in part to the demand for labor.

Children reported as out of school, 92; in Kindergartens, 154; in other schools, 206; adults and children placed in homes, 15; in hospital, 1. Permanent work had been found for 51, and temporary employment for 34 persons.

A free kindergarten has been opened in the 10th Ward, which is attended by 28 children. Increased co-operation with charitable societies was reported by several Wards.

MISS HANCOCK enquired into a case in the 5th Ward report. A man, a drunkard, whose wife had died of neglect in a station house, had been taken in hand, clothed, helped to gain employment, and was now earning from \$12.00 to 15.00 per week, and his reformation was apparently accomplished. The 6th Ward had gone through exactly the same course as the 5th with the same man, except that they had loaned him money which he had never repaid. She thought the 5th Ward should have investigated further before helping, applying to neighboring Wards for information.

MR. KELLOGG said this experience emphasized the importance of daily counts of cases being sent to the Central Office where they are kept on record, and can be traced up by the Superintendent.

MRS. LESLEY said it was manifestly an important part of a Superintendent's duty to send to the Central Office for information in each case as well as to supply the same to the Office.

A general conversation took place on this case, in the course of which the opinion was expressed that little confidence could be placed in the reformation of a man who showed no disposition to repay what had been loaned him; but at the same time he should not be given up as irreclaimable.

The 6th Ward reported the opening of an industrial school with 12 boys at their Ward House, under the charge of a volunteer teacher to whom the credit of the enterprise is solely due.

The 9th Ward reported that co-operation had been obtained with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and there was now but one Society operating in the Ward with which they did not co-operate. All the aid given during the month had been through existing societies. Of 64 men sent to the Wood Yard, less than half a dozen had reported, a clear proof that work was not the object of the applicant.

MISS NEWLIN called attention to the statistics of "children not at school" in the blank forms of report. Children under school age should not be included under that heading.

MR. KELLOGG desired to express, before leaving for his new field in the city of New York, his grateful appreciation of the valuable help and stimulus which he had received from the members of the Women's Conference in the discharge of his official duties. Whatever success had been attained by the Society in its great enterprise, and the bright promise of increasing usefulness in the future, was to be ascribed to the labo-

rious, untiring, self-sacrificing service of the Visitors. For himself he could cherish no more cheering hope than that he might secure in New York such kind and devoted co-operation as he had enjoyed in Philadelphia. A joint interest in the same great reform might be expected to supply opportunity for future communications, and it would be most gratifying to him to renew the pleasant associations of the past three or four years. He could do nothing better for his successor Dr. Jas. W. Walk, than commend him to their confidence and cordial co-operation.

After some remarks expressive of appreciation of Mr. Kellogg and regret for his departure, MRS. LESLEY was requested to prepare resolutions conveying the sentiments of the Conference, to be presented at its next meeting.

DR. WALK, the new General Secretary of the Society, was then introduced, and said that while he could not expect to fill Mr. Kellogg's place, he would try to deserve their confidence, and asked their kind consideration and encouragement in beginning his official service.

MRS. BIDDLE welcomed Dr. Walk on behalf of the Conference, and assured him of the hearty good-will of the Visitors as he had already gained their confidence by his work as Superintendent of the 15th Ward.

It was suggested by Miss NEWLIN that cases reported as "permanently independent" should be reported again at the May meeting, in order to know if any had fallen back into past ways of dependence.

The Conference then adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY MEETING.

The April ASSEMBLY was held on the 3d inst., at 1420 Chestnut St., the Vice-President, MR. R. N. WILLSON, in the Chair, during the temporary absence of the President. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read by the Recording Secretary, MR. HAROLD GOODWIN, the subject for the evening, continued from the last meeting—

DESERTED INFANTS AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN—

was introduced by

MR. BENJ. J. CREW, of the Society for the Protection of Children from Cruelty, who said it was generally agreed that the proper place for an infant was where it can be under the care of its own mother, or one like her in feeling. Infants die under the care of nurses who are not motherly. The Almshouse infants died for lack of mothering more than anything else. Private homes for the deserted are a necessity. Perhaps district homes might be established, as had been suggested, the annual cost of which might be reckoned at \$3,000 and upwards, each home. The public Treasury should aid in this matter, as is done in New York City. Probably such aid could be obtained here if the system was well organized.

The Rev. H. O. DU BOIS read a paper on the work and methods of the

NURSERY AND CHILD'S HOSPITAL,

of New York City, prepared by MRS. MATSON MEIER-SMITH, the substance of which is as follows:

The work was commenced in 1854, and was the fruit of a private enquiry into the condition of the children of wet-nurses, boarded at such places as the mothers' means commanded. It was found that, with scarcely an exception, they died within a year; and few who went to the Almshouse, survived many weeks.

A few ladies, moved by personal observation of the cruelties practiced, the drugging, starving and neglect, commenced a Home, giving it the name of "The Nursery for the Children of Poor Women." In one week after the house was opened, every bed was filled with the children of wet-nurses. They were brought from the best places that could be found, so emaciated with want, so filthy from neglect, that no nurse was willing to take charge of them; and the ladies took upon themselves the trying task of the first cleansing, and the almost hourly attention needed, for months. An incident in the history of the first summer, may give an idea of the energy and readiness in emergency which characterized the guiding spirit of the work from its earliest stage. One day, while cholera prevailed in New York, and the heat was intense, the physician pronounced the children dying from over-crowding, and that without instant relief, scarcely one could be saved. The next house stood vacant—the key of their own door was found to fit—women with pails and brushes were sent in to take possession, and prepare for the infants, while the Directress drove to the office of the owner, armed with a check for a quarter's rent. He was glad to give up the keys of a house so unexpectedly wanted, in the middle of a sickly July, and did not know until long afterward, that while his proposed tenant was negotiating with him, his house was already occupied. The babies were saved, and the

owner willingly forgave the trespass. This was the first-lesson against over-crowding. The Managers never forgot the necessity of so many cubic feet of air for each child. The number of sick children constantly brought showed the need of a hospital, and after securing a grant of \$10,000 from the State Legislature, the charter was amended, and the name changed to the present one, "The Nursery and Child's Hospital." The present building on Lexington Avenue was erected in 1857. It was contrary to the rules of the Managers to receive foundlings or illegitimate children; but the heart of the first Directress was deeply stirred by the pitiable condition of those refused, and whose only refuge was the Almshouse and the tiny pauper grave.

The following extract is given from a private letter of Mrs. Du Bois: "For years I stood alone, pleading for the waifs and strays of the city. The Managers positively refused to receive such children. While promising not to leave the the Nursery which I had founded, I made application to the city authorities to build an 'Infants' Home,' giving it that name, that the children might not be injured in after life by the stigma of 'foundling.' While that was being erected, my thoughts dwelt on the cause of all the misery of illegitimate mothers and deserted children. The police aided me in tracing the unfortunate mothers, who to save exposure added other crimes. The sense of shame was more powerful than the fear of death, and suicide and infanticide were their only resort. Every door was shut against the poor sinners, some not more than 14 or 15 years old. If they lived, it must be in the lowest haunts of vice. I believed that this very sense of shame, the cause of so much suffering, showed something left in the woman's breast, by which, with God's help, a chance was opened for restoration. It was worth the trial. The building erected for the Infants' Home was finished at the commencement of the war, and was needed for a Soldier's Hospital. During the war, the views of the Managers of the Nursery had changed; and when the war closed, and the building was opened for illegitimate children and their mothers, they consented to take charge of this Refuge, and the constitution was changed accordingly. While we cannot hope that, in all cases, our efforts have been successful, we do know, and joyfully proclaim our encouragement in reforming mothers, and saving infant life."

This extract is given, that the prominence of the work for women may be understood. Though a secondary object, it is regarded as of nearly as much importance, and in fact, necessary to the primary one. Profiting by the experience of asylums in Europe, "the basket at the door" was condemned, and every inducement being offered to mothers to remain with their children, the Maternity Wards became an important feature of the institution. The criminal reports showed a marked decrease in the number of suicides and infanticides, as soon as these Wards were opened. The percentage of mortality constantly decreased, yet the necessity for more room and purer air, was increasingly felt; especially in the summer months. In 1870, the Country Branch of the Nursery was opened on Staten Island. The beneficiaries of both departments consist of women for confinement, or with infants, and destitute or deserted children under four years of age, who may remain to the age of eight. The rules forbid the reception of any child whose mother is known, if she refuses to do anything for its support. Though the Country Branch was first intended for only the feeble infants, and those over four years of age, there are now about the same number of the different classes, as in the city buildings. Village homes are chosen for children above four years. Of 478 children on Staten Island, nearly 300 are boarded out. These homes are visited at any hour, day or night. The children are seen at their meals and in their beds; and morals and manners are cared for as well as health. Children over five years of age are sent to the schools of the institution, kindergarten instruction being freely employed.

Mrs. Du Bois writes: "Many of our little ones are children of drunken parents, and it is a grief to us to let them return to their parents, when eight years old. We have sent some to western homes, but are now trying a different plan. We make every effort to diminish the number of children, now a burden to the tax-payers. We have made arrangements with a paper-box factory and another factory, where they have very light work. In a short time they earn a small sum, and soon pay a part of their own board. They go to the factories for a few hours only, and comply with the law in reference to schooling, having short lessons in the afternoons. Thus they are retained under the fostering care of the Nursery, until the trade they are learning makes them independent. In this way we hope to prevent their parents from removing them, while we foster industry, and a proper independence."

The mothers of children born in the institution, remain with them three months at least, each nursing her own child and another. If, then, they desire to leave, they pay part of the board of their children, and are

encouraged to visit them. Some prefer to remain under the good influences which surround them, for years. For others, with their infants, places are found in the country. Some, who in long residence have proved themselves trustworthy, are promoted to be the care-takers of cottages, and watch over little ones whose mothers are engaged in other service. The visitor can hardly fail to be favorably impressed by the different departments of the Nursery. The city buildings are well situated, and receive plenty of sun light. There is no crowding, and each occupant has a sufficient number of cubic feet of air. Wise supervision and good discipline are everywhere indicated, and an excellent matron presides. Detached buildings, much needed for hospital and reception purposes, are nearly completed. Two ladies of the management are appointed for each week, and visit the hospital daily.

The Country Nursery is at West New Brighton, on Staten Island. It occupies large grounds, and is beautifully located on a bluff commanding extensive views. The little village, composed of two large buildings and 18 cottages, presents an inviting exterior, and the internal arrangements are equally attractive. Cleanliness and order, with admirable system reign, and ample means are apparent, used with no unsparing hand. The cottages afford opportunity for classification, and isolation, when required; and the extensive grounds give the great advantage of open air life for the children. There is a large Sanitarium for exercise, and one building contains schools and kindergartens. Neither pains nor expense have been spared, in applying all modern sanitary improvements; yet something remains to be done in this direction, as a recent outbreak of diphtheria shows. To the unstinted expenditure permitted by large resources, and to the efficient management, must be largely due the successful progress of this extensive work. The head of the institution, Mrs. Du Bois, who resides in the neighborhood, visits it daily, and her watchful eye and guiding hand, mark and direct every detail. It is impossible to over-estimate the remarkable administrative ability, energy and tact of the lady who has been the presiding genius, and whose magnetic power influences all her subordinates. Unbounded faith and undaunted energy have, in this instance, as so often, triumphed over great obstacles and won an enviable success. From this resume of the history and work of the institution, it will be seen that the system is that of the Asylum and Hospital, with the use of cottages, and of village homes for the older children. The "placing-out" or "family-home" system, is used with great success for those over four years of age, but has not been adopted, to any extent, for the infants. The managers, who show every disposition to improve by past experience, have placed some infants, under six months, in private families, and are cautiously enlarging the experiment. Almost the only infants brought up upon the bottle, who have been saved, were in private homes. It appears, unlikely, that this system will supersede the asylum. But a small proportion of the children are foundlings, and the rule being not to separate the children from their mothers, the placing-out could only be for the deserted infants. Two great difficulties must be surmounted, whenever the placing-out system is successful. 1st, That of finding the requisite number of homes, fulfilling sanitary and other conditions; with the labor and expense of the medical and other supervision. And, 2nd, for infants under one year, the question of nourishment; the majority of infants thus placed, of necessity being hand-fed, with the probable disastrous results. As the fruitage of many years experience of the charity under consideration, we gather the strongest testimony to the dangers of over-crowding, and of the necessity of increasing vigilance in regard to ventilation, plumbing, drainage and sewage. Also to the superior advantage of the cottage buildings, in spite of their greater expense. Possibly, a few years will see all large buildings for the destitute and defective classes, abandoned, and the cottage system generally adopted. But, given every other possible advantage, the Nursery experience emphasizes one fact most distinctly. Maternal nourishment is all that can be depended upon for saving infant life. Children, brought up with their own mothers, thrive best, and resist disease better than all others. Next, those who are nursed by others; and lastly, those raised by hand.

The report for 1880, says: "No place has yet devised, by which infants can be brought up in an institution, when deprived of nature's nourishment." That of 1881—"We repeat our annual statement, that infants who have to be bottle-fed, cannot be raised in institutions. Knowing that the effort is often successful in private families, we thought that perhaps more careful watching of bottles, temperature of food, etc., might possibly save some. To test this fairly, the infants were placed under the care of our best nurses, and the constant supervision of an excellent physician, who kept almost hourly accounts of every change. We, therefore, come to the conclusion that ante-natal influences, are to be charged with the death rates of infants of the poor. Insufficient and in-nutritious diet, anxious mental conditions, and hereditary taints, will

always make it almost impossible to raise infants, unsupplied with the food nature has provided."

Forming these conclusions, it is unlikely that the experiment of boarding out such infants, will be extensively made by the management of the Nursery. The condition of the pauper children of New York, before the Nursery was founded, but repeats the sickening oft-told tale. About 1,000 children were annually "farmed out" by the Almshouse. "In a single hut upon the river side, it was common to find four or five young infants on the floor, with a single nurse, who gave them bottle-food until they all died. The expense of the city was more than \$50,000 annually, and the mortality about 95 per cent. After these horrors were exposed, the Almshouse governors sent such children to the Almshouse. But the pauper or criminal nurses, took no better care of them, though it was thought a triumph when the mortality was reduced to 86 per cent."

During the first year of the Nursery—1856—there were 267 children in charge; in 1866, 470; in 1876, 1209; in the year ending March, 1882, there were 1,550 children, and of all beneficiaries, 2,322. The death-rate steadily decreased, until, in 1876, it was 15.56 for the city and 9 per cent in the country. During the year 1880, there were in the Country Branch, 792 children. The death-rate was 6.5. Expenses for the same year, \$130,902, for both branches; of which the institution contributed about \$20,000, and public aid was received to the amount of \$103,711. The actual cost of maintaining each inmate was about \$66; \$10 per month is paid for the board of those in private families, and the city per capita allowance is 38 cents per day. The mortality report for the year ending March, 1882, is not as favorable, owing to two epidemics of measles and one of diphtheria in the City Nursery, and one of diphtheria in the Country. This raised the rate in the city to 24, and in the country to 8.1. Is there anything to be learned from the history and methods of this institution, as to the comparative value of its plan of work, and the "placing-out" system for infants?

It was not the design of this paper to attempt a comparison between the Nursery and other institutions; but, as the Massachusetts Infant Asylum, of whose admirable work we heard last month, has been mentioned in connection with the Nursery, it is perhaps proper to show some of the difficulties in the way of accurate comparison. If "figures cannot lie," they often mislead, as many factors involved fail to appear upon the surface. The Infant Asylum is administered upon the "placing-out" system. The State Board of Charities co-operates, and the arrangement provides that healthy children, or those who have a reasonable prospect of becoming so, are taken in charge by the Asylum. But few are retained in the Home, the majority being placed, as soon as possible, in selected private homes. The diseased and defective children are placed under the care of the Department of Out-Door Poor. They are also boarded in private families, and are subject to regular supervision by medical and other agents. It may be pardonable for one who has lived long in Massachusetts, to entertain a doubt whether, in any other part of our country, a work calling for such unceasing, intelligent, and conscientious vigilance, could be as successfully developed. During the year 1880, there were at the Massachusetts Infant Asylum; and under the care of the State Board, 233 children under two years of age; 115 were selected as reasonably healthy. Among those selected children, the percentage of mortality was 13.04. Of the inferior class, diseased and feeble, there were 118; the mortality was 25.42. In all, of both classes, a little less than 20 per cent. The cost of supporting these children has been about \$100 each, not reckoning expenses of medical visitors. Of those in the care of the Asylum and pronounced healthy, 12 per cent. have died; of the qualified class, 20 per cent.

As the Nursery receives feeble, and even dying children, and includes in its reports, still-born and premature births, it might be expected that the death-rate, 13.04, of the Infant Asylum, would be much exceeded. On the contrary, the mortality rate of the Country Branch, for the same year, 1880, for those under two years of age, was 11.8—a percentage lower than the Infant Asylum, though including the feeble and diseased. The Infant Asylum has a much larger proportion of foundlings; so many of the illegitimate children of the Nursery being with their mothers. The managers naturally claim that their lower death-rate is largely owing to this fact. Another, and much smaller Infant Home, reports a mortality of 33 per cent. The Nursery and Child's Hospital may congratulate itself upon a reasonable success in saving infant life, when it has reached the remarkably low death-rate of 11.8 for its country children, under two years of age.

Criticism of this institution has been made, on the ground of costly administration. The managers believe that the results justify the expense, and could not have been otherwise attained. Another criticism—that the beneficiaries are retained too long, especially the mothers—

is met by the fact that no one is required to remain more than three months. The longer residence occurs in cases of homeless women or deserted wives, for whom employment is found, with the advantage of continuing them under the reclaiming influences which form so large a part of the work.

It was suggested at this point, by the President, that representatives of the Philadelphia Home for Infants were present, whom the Assembly would be glad to hear from.

MRS. P. G. MCCOLLIN, Treasurer of the Home, said she had no prepared address, but was ready to answer any enquiries concerning that institution. Questions having been asked by several members, Mrs. McCollin described the scope and methods of the Home. It was not intended for foundling, nor for children old enough to go to other institutions, but for infants whose fathers or mothers were dead, or whose homes were broken up. Nevertheless, foundlings are occasionally taken in. In all, 63 children have been received, 13 of whom died, and 17 have been taken by their parents or relatives, or regularly adopted. No colored children are in the institution. The Seaside Home, at Ocean Park, N. J., is occupied from June 1st to the end of September, and has been most valuable in aiding to save life. There are many difficulties in procuring a good corps of nurses, and in the details of the work. More money would enable the managers to do better than they find possible at present. For most of the infants they receive some pay, from \$2 a week to 50 cents, or less. Nothing has ever been received from the City Treasury or from the State Board. There are 40 children in the Home at the present time.

DR. J. CHESTON MORRIS explained the origin and purpose of the Sheltering Arms. It was commenced by Bishop Stevens, on his own responsibility, who rented a house and equipped it as well as he could. A Society was then formed, and the work has gone on successfully. A house, well adapted for the purpose of a hospital, has been purchased, at Franklin and Brown Streets, where 40 or 50 children can be cared for, which is quite enough under one management. Better results can be obtained in small institutions. The Sheltering Arms may be made very useful for receiving children while they are weak or sick; healthy children should be placed out in families as soon as possible. The reclamation of the mothers is also an object of this institution. The parents of the child are traced, if possible, and all suitable means are used to induce them to recognize their parental responsibilities. It has been objected that the Sheltering Arms is a sectarian Charity, but there is no ground for the objection, except that the Bishop of the P. E. Diocese of Pennsylvania is *ex-officio* the President, an arrangement which was deemed necessary to secure the confidence of the community in the worthiness of the Charity. The Board of Managers is composed of members of various denominations, no religious qualifications being recognized in any way. It was evident that there was a great need to be met. The Children's Hospital does not receive illegitimate children, and can only receive a small portion of the children brought there. There is a large field for extending its operations. St. Christopher's Hospital for Children would be willing to take foundlings and abandoned children if they could get some appropriation from the public funds. Were the city well districted, and those districts supervised by the ladies interested in them, no doubt the work would be better done than if it got into politics.

MISS C. K. MEREDITH, of the 8th Ward Association, read the following paper:—

WHY IS IT BETTER THAT CHILDREN WHO LIVE IN INSTITUTIONS SHOULD GO OUT TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Not many years ago, while a fine stone building for charitable purposes was in course of construction in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, a poor lad, meeting one of the managers of the institution near by, asked: "Please m'am, will you tell me what that big house is for?" "That is a Home, where poor little boys and girls, who have no father or mother, can come and be taken care of," was the reply. "My!" said the lad, with half regretful tone, "how lucky some children are!"

It would have been no unprofitable task, it has often seemed to me, to have followed that boy and contrasted his home with the institution. The former, poor, no doubt, and lacking much of the order and care that prevail in the latter, yet, perchance, affording a wider field for development of character than can obtain in institutional life, the monotony of which tends too often to cramp the intellect and dull the sensibilities.

Family life and social life are the two great factors, speaking generally, in the education of the world—and if we add church life, upon which we all depend more or less, this is but putting our truth in a different form; for what is church life but the commingling of these two, which God having joined together, it is presumptuous in man, if not worse, to put asunder.

If this point be well taken, then it follows that whatever approaches to the natural order of things is confessedly the best; and where, through neglect of the parents, or from any other cause whatsoever, the natural order be subverted, which is the case in institutional life, the next best thing is to use such means as are available to restore the lost order. Now, sending the children in institutions to the public schools, tends towards this very end. In the public schools, such children are thrown in a healthy way with other children; the monotony of their institutional life is, at least, partially, if not entirely relieved, and the school, being the place where they meet with their future fellow citizens, tends to incorporate them more and more into the body politic. For this reason it is important that children sent from institutions should not wear uniform, so that there may be no distinctive mark between them and their associates.

Again, children brought up in institutions are, as a rule, more narrow, dull, and less public-spirited than other children. Sending them to the public schools helps to counteract these evils. In point of book-learning too, the advantage is on the side of the public schools, as the teachers for the most part, are more fully prepared, while the children in these schools can be better classed and graded than in the comparatively small schools in institutions.

Another motive for the use of the public schools, one which ought to have due weight, may be found in the fact that thus the institutions are relieved of a great burden of care, expense, and responsibility. In nearly every one of the institutions of Philadelphia receiving poor children, a separate school is maintained for their instruction. No doubt this policy proceeds from a generous motive; moreover, that it secures certain benefits; and, as the plan proposed seems an innovation on the general practice, the question becomes important: Has it been tried, and with what success? The two instances which can be cited are the pauper children of Indiana, and the children of the Union Temporary Home, at 16th and Poplar Streets, in our own city. The pauper children of Indiana have been placed in the Henry County House, under the care of Miss Susan Fussell, and are all sent to the public schools as soon as they are of school age. They appear as the other children, without any distinctive dress, and the reports indicate that the results are good.

In the Union Temporary Home, there are usually about 70 inmates, boys and girls, of primary school age. Until last summer, a school was kept in the building with indifferent success, and with much concern to the managers. Since last September, these children have all been sent to the public school, and while the test has not been long enough applied to prove its entire fitness, yet improvement has been observed in the children with regard to the quickening of their mental activity, as well as in their greater happiness, for the daily outing.

It may sound Utopian, but may we not hope that the time will come when all such institutions for children shall be converted into temporary asylums, or clearing-houses, from which the children can be sent, as soon as possible, to homes in private families?

But before this happy time does come, and so long as the present system lasts, the importance cannot be urged too strongly, of taking all pains to save these children from being branded as a separate class; and of using every means, so far as may be, to qualify them for a full share in the common life, that they may thus, in time, add their part to the common weal, and become worthy members of this great commonwealth.

The HON. JUDGE PEIRCE said that he desired to endorse all that had been said by the representatives of the Philadelphia Home for Infants, on behalf of that institution. He was well acquainted with its operations, and had great confidence in the management. The subject before the Assembly was one of the very highest importance. He believed that the great mortality amongst infants was to be attributed mainly to insufficient nutrition. The adulteration of milk was, no doubt, chargeable with greatly aggravating the death-rate of our cities. Whatever else is done that ought to be done in the way of sanitary improvement, still, the lack of suitable and sufficient nutrition will keep the death-rate high.

REV. CHARLES G. AMES spoke, at length, on "The Care of Destitute Children." First, he answered a question which had been put into his hand: "How far shall the sins of the parents be visited on the children—as when the illegitimate are excluded from the orphanages?" Reply: Parentage may be illegitimate—childhood never! No child can forfeit any natural and human right by being born. The natural consequences of lawless parentage are hard enough to bear, and every artificial disability or brand of inferiority is needless, cruel and wicked.

We have to consider three classes of deserted children: First, those deserted ones who unjustly suffer for the infamy of their parentage;

second, the neglected and abused, whose parents are so much worse than none, as to forfeit their legal right to the custody of the children; third, the orphaned poor. But these three classes are really one class: they are simply parentless, homeless and helpless children, bereaved by various causes of their natural protectors. They all have a common nature and need; they all alike appeal to our sympathy; they all alike require just what our own children require to put them in the way to a true and happy life. Whether picked up on the pavement, or rescued from the torment of drunken parents, or left without provision by the death of father and mother, a child is a child, and it claims from the collective love and wisdom of the community the best fatherly and motherly care we are able to supply.

In dealing with neglected, deserted, and orphan children, no questions should be asked. If they are destitute they are to be provided for. Instead of taking them in classes, some large method or general principle should be sought that would apply to all. And what is the method which covers all classes and all ages? what is the principle that should be as a guiding star in this work? Is it not that we should provide a home for them, one that shall be as nearly like home as possible? What we have to do is to return, in our treatment of these children, to the order of nature. Even a poor home is better than none at all. It is better for children to be left with their parents, even though there may be some vice and disorderliness in the home. There is always danger in taking them away from their parents. The natural ties of parent and child should not be broken, except as an extreme remedy. But if a child has no place in its own family, for any cause whatsoever, then it should be put in another family, by regular adoption if possible. Dr. H. C. Potter, the Rector of Grace P. E. Church, New York City, has adduced statistics concerning what is done in the State of New York, which shows that all destitute children could be placed in good homes if people were more in earnest in the matter. The next best thing to do is to place them out to board, in families where perhaps a small payment may be necessary. This often ends in the child's regular adoption, and is always better than any institutional nurture. Next, there should be small institutions, as nearly resembling families as possible, from which they should be sent out to the public schools or Kindergartens, and in which they should be trained to be helpful. No distinctive dress should be worn, and they should be called by no names that would put a stigma upon them. The exceptional cases to be dealt with, such as cripples, imbeciles, the abnormally vicious, and infants with their mothers, demand separate consideration; but, as a general principle, all institutions should be looked upon as forwarding houses, or, as Dr. Potter says, like the Seaman's Rescue, a merely temporary shelter. It has been found necessary in England and France to put children in twos and threes to save their lives. From 70 to 80 per cent. of the children in Foundling Hospitals died; but as soon as they were placed out with proper nurses and under due inspection, the mortality declined from 20 to 30 per cent. The mortality in institutions here is quite large. Children pine for lack of love. Many children, in families, are worse off than in institutions, but the best institution is inferior to the average family. Mrs. Senior traced out the later history of 670 girls who had been taken care of in an English institution—fed, clothed, sheltered, taught to read and write, with careful religious teaching too. All but 78 of them sunk into vice and misery, and most of the others were unsatisfactory, unskilful, troublesome. Take 670 girls in a rather low grade of families, and a far better record of their womanhood would be found. The necessity of taking all children out of the Almshouses is imperative. Every effort in this direction reports encouraging progress. Remarkable awakenings of intelligence in children, who had seemed stupid, have taken place when they have been brought into an atmosphere of love and home-like cheer. It might be done in Pennsylvania, and ought to be done. The work is of manageable dimensions, and there is wisdom and love enough to do it, if only our child-saving agencies were brought into harmony with advancing intelligence. The law of the family life is our guiding star.

The resolutions presented by the Committee on the Education and Care of Children at the last meeting of the Assembly, together with the following resolutions, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, "That the Bureau should be entitled "A Children's Bureau," that it should be a distinct and chartered body, and that, in the opinion of this Committee, it would be expedient that the Bureau should occupy the same building with the Society for Organizing Charity, and that information should be requested from the Board of Directors of said Society, whether accommodation could be afforded within its offices at this time and upon what conditions."

Resolved, "That this Committee report to the Assembly that it is extremely desirable to secure the removal of children from the Almshouse,

and to find homes for them in families or charitable institutions; and ask that the Assembly take proper steps to bring before the public authorities the importance of such a change."

Whereupon the Assembly adjourned.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF BOSTON.

Boston, April 1st, 1882.

The subject of the last General Conference of the Associated Charities was "Is There a Labor-Test in Boston."

The following paper, prepared by the Industrial Committee of one of the Ward Conferences, was read among several others:

The Industrial Committee having had under consideration the question whether it would be practicable and advisable to establish a labor test for women, similar to the Provident Wood Yard for men, present the following report.

Assuming that the Provident's plan of providing work for men by a Wood Yard has been a success, we ought, before adopting a similar plan for women, to consider; first, how far the present position and needs of the women are similar to those of the men; and secondly, how far any plan proposed is similar to the one already tried, *in those features to which the present plan owes its success.*

Let us now consider how the Wood Yard works. Its success, so far as it is successful, seems to be in dealing with those men who, having a fair share of health, and their time at their own disposal, profess themselves unable to find work, and make this inability an excuse for begging. To such, an offer of immediate work at low wages, is not only a test of their true character, showing at once which are the willing and which are the unwilling idlers, but while leaving the former class without excuse, it provides for the latter enough to supply their most pressing necessities.

The advantages of the special work offered are; 1st, that it requires no skill; 2nd, that it needs not to be proportioned to the immediate demand. Wood may be sawed at the season when wages are most needed, and sold at the season when wood is most needed.

Is there among women any class corresponding to the class of men for whom the Wood Yard provides? And if there is, would such a test be available. Or have we already one that sufficiently answers the purpose?

It appears to us that there is either no such class unprovided for, or a very small one. If we find a woman destitute, or even professing to be destitute, it is almost always, either because she is not strong enough to do hard work, or because, owing to the dependence on her of children or invalids, her time is not at her own disposal. To those women who can leave home, domestic service offers a support, not only supplying their immediate needs, but giving them a settled home far more essential to a woman than to a man. And the Temporary Home for Working Women meets the wants of most of those who, for special reasons, cannot immediately find a place at service.

To those women who can leave home regularly for the day, though obliged to return at night, the laundries now in operation seem to offer a better opportunity than one established for the purpose. The latter would necessarily be a small one, as the class requiring it is small; it would therefore find it more difficult to adjust the supply to the demand.

Scrubbing and cleaning requiring even less ability than laundry work, and therefore better suited to the needs of the women in question, are open to the same objection, that they must be done just when wanted. For a labor test, we must have some kind of labor which is capable of being stored up for future use. The only kind which seems to meet this requirement is coarse sewing, and our enquiries and experiments have tended to show; first, that this sewing is already provided by the shops in sufficient quantities to answer, in some degree, both uses of a labor test; the discriminating between the willing and unwilling idlers, and the raising of the latter above actual beggary or starvation; and 2d, that all attempts so far, to provide sewing for charity's sake, have failed to either meet or diminish the demand. 3d, Because we find in the ordinary industries going on about us, labor tests which, though not so satisfactory as the Wood Yards are for men, are, we believe, in the long run, more thorough in their operation, and more satisfactory in their results than any artificial ones that have yet been devised for women. Should it nevertheless be thought best to make the experiment, it would

seem to be indispensable that the labor required should be either something for which the demand always exceeds the supply, or something which, like the wood or the sewing, can be stored for future use.

We also think it a mistake to suppose that in such an enterprise the element of self support is unimportant. If the object of a test were merely to reject the unworthy, the cost might be of little consequence, but the whole value of a test rests upon the assumption that some of the applicants are worthy, and such can only be really earning their money if their wages are paid from the market price of their labor, and not eked out by charity.

To re-iterate, we should not expect success in the attempt to provide for women such a test as the Provident's Wood Yard provides for men: 1st, Because there appears to be only a very small class of women similarly situated to the men. 2d, Because such an enterprise while meeting all a man's positive needs, fails to provide lodging or shelter such as is essential for a woman. 3d, Because such a test to be of any value must be offered to the lowest willing to accept it, and would therefore be justly avoided by respectable women, who in reputation, if not in character, suffer more than men from evil associations.

As we do not encourage a labor test for women, it seems advisable to show what substitutes for this already exists, and it must be admitted at the start that those in the regular channels of labor, such as laundries and shop sewing, are insufficient to make what can be properly called a labor test, because the supply of work varies much at different seasons, and so removes an important channel of a true test, which must be ready to be tried at all times, and on all applicants.

So far as they can be used, however, all these industries may help us in proving willingness to work, since no skill seems to be required in the lower classes of either. After inquiring at various shops where coarse sewing is given out to women, not one was found where any sample of previous work was required, although several employers said their material was not unfrequently ruined by the bad sewing; but this seems to be considered a natural risk, and the woman is simply dismissed while another equally incapable may take her place.

In laundries, also, we know, at the season when extra help is needed, almost any strong woman may earn \$3.00 a week (the lowest wages paid) and that without any recommendation as to skill.

Of course these two employments must often fail to meet the demands; but various other experiments offer some measure of success, though not known by the name of labor tests. Such a case was one where a woman asked for work in scrubbing and the Visitor, after failing to obtain it for her at 6 places, did find some at the 7th, but instead of sending the woman directly there, she was given the list of all seven, and her perseverance tested with a favorable result, for she retained the place a year, and has since advanced to a much better position under the same employer.

Another experiment was offered when a hospital needed a woman to wash bandages, and three refused to go from fear of contagion, though all complained of great poverty. Again, where some one was needed, the other day, to take care of an invalid's room for low wages, but still with regular work.

These cases, and others similar, show the opportunities which ordinary industries supply for testing character and ability. It may be urged that these experiments require time, and have not the advantages of the immediate test provided for them by the Wood Yards. But is the question of time of the same importance in dealing with these women, as with the class of men employed at the Wood Yards.

These may drift from the tramp class to the criminal so easily, that society in self-defense must provide the quickest form of investigation available; but with women there is not equal danger—rather should we incline to believe that, in their case, a knowledge of the individual's ability, character and circumstances, becomes a necessity before we can be sure the right test has been found. Therefore no one form of labor could ever answer their requirements, and again the lesson is repeated, so often learned in our work, that we must turn to individual study of each case. That a labor test would greatly assist the Visitor is undoubted, and also prevent some discouragement in those new to the work, who beg for a more practical help in the difficult task of forming a judgment: but it is less certain that the visited would claim equal benefit from being treated as a class and not with a view to their individual needs, as at present. Besides, would not the same time and thought be required in finding that suitable work after the labor test had proved the person worthy, and if so, why not endeavor to find it in the first place?

It seems well to remember how many of our failures must be traced to faults of character, rather than lack of work or want of skill; of these the most common are, 1st, that a woman has not yet found the work

most suited to her; 2d, want of perseverance and thrift; 3d, preference for receiving charity, although asking for work.

The 1st class is not common but quite possible, and here the Visitor's insight and ingenuity must ensure success. The 2d rests even more upon the lessons of example, encouragement, patience, which only personal influence can teach; and there remains the 3d, our most difficult problem, where nothing but the harsh measure of actual need can win the battle. We have just had a striking instance of this in the L. case, where various kinds of work for the girl, Alice, had been obstinately refused, until the charitable supplies were stopped, when reason prevailed. Alice consented to work, and now the family desire a place to be found for her sister.

These cases all serve as suggestions. We will only add one question, can a labor test, or anything short of thorough information, reflection, patience and infinite tact, really solve the problem?

LETTER FROM THE INDIANAPOLIS CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 24th, 1882.

The Friendly Inn and Wood Yard reports as follows: lodgings furnished during the month, 389; meals, 775; men registered, 87; women, 5; children, 4. During the last month the bath-rooms have been finished. A two-story addition has been made at a cost of \$700, and the lower part supplied with four tubs, with hot and cold water. All lodgers bathe, are furnished with a night shirt, and sleep in comfortable beds. The entire idea of the Inn is thus completed. The Institution is now paying its expenses, and furnishing a comfortable lodging, with good food, to the transient and the stranger.

In illustration of the need of co-operation with the Society by the churches, it was stated at the last monthly meeting of the Executive Council, that a prominent church had recently given \$100 to a person unworthy of support.

The Flower Mission reported having cared for 56 sick persons during the month. Of these, 20 have so far recovered as to be dismissed. Besides the sick, children out of school for lack of proper clothing, have been made comfortable, and placed in the public schools. Little girls are sent to the Saturday afternoon sewing schools, and mothers are instructed in household duties.

During February the District Committee received 155 applications for aid, which were classified as follows: (1) cases worthy of relief, 52; (2) cases needing work rather than relief, 37; (3) cases not requiring, or unworthy of, or not entitled to relief, 63; with 3 cases deferred for further investigation. Amongst the last class were 20 who did not need relief, 5 who owned property, 7 having relations able to support them, 18 who prefer to live on alms, and the remainder were confirmed inebriates, or vicious, or permanently thriftless and improvident. Through the agency of the Society, the whole of the applications in the two first classes were relieved by the several Associated Charities of the city.

LETTER FROM THE BUREAU OF ASSOCIATED CHARITIES OF NEWARK.

NEWARK, N. J., March 21st, 1882.

The effort to organize the Charities of the City of Newark having so far advanced, and actual operations having been inaugurated, a sketch of the preliminary work resulting in the Bureau of Associated Charities of that City may not be uninteresting to those persons in other cities whose attention is being drawn more or less directly, towards the necessity of similar action.

In Newark the great bulk of charity (outside of the City contributions) is dispensed by three very strong and influential societies—the Hebrew Benevolent Society, working mainly among the large Hebrew population of the city, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, whose arms stretch out in nearly every city of the Union to succor and befriend the poor and needy of the Roman Catholic faith; and the Newark Female Charitable Society—a very mother in Israel when estimated by the length of her existence, the record of her usefulness in the past, or the activity and broad philanthropy characterizing her management at present. This Society is maintained and contributed to, by persons from all creeds; but, as distinct from the other societies mentioned, it might be classed as representing the Protestant Charity Organization.

For a long time past all these bodies, working for a single object, the betterment of the condition of the poor and destitute, have found themselves unable to cope with the increased calls upon their resources. This, in the face of the generally improved condition of business affairs, seemed to be explained only in one way—many worthless characters

found they could live to better advantage (from their lazy standpoint) off the societies, than by working at an honest occupation.

The Female Charitable Society was the first organization willing to acknowledge this condition of affairs, and its members determined to take the initiative towards its correction. To that end they called a public meeting, and invited a large number of the gentlemen in the city, identified with churches or philanthropic works, to attend, and by their presence manifest an interest in the new movement.

At this meeting the managers were fortunate in obtaining Messrs Charles D. Kellogg and Josiah R. Sypher from Philadelphia, to sketch the work of a similar nature already inaugurated in that city.

The gratifying result of these addresses was, that at their close a committee of fifteen gentlemen was appointed to consider the feasibility of putting such a system into operation forthwith.

That Committee held several meetings, to which clergymen, officers of all charitable organizations, judges and court officers were invited, and through their instrumentality aroused and developed a wide-spread attention from all classes of the community. Meantime the Committee worked out a plan of organization, laid the city out in Districts for facilitating the procuring of information as to the needy, and exposing imposition; prepared its constitution; and once again came before the public in a general meeting.

There a permanent organization was formed, the constitution was ratified, and a Board of Fifteen Directors was chosen.

From that meeting the work has gone steadily forward. The plan adopted is generally similar to those operating in other cities, variations only being made to meet the special emergencies of the work for Newark, or to avoid mistakes freely confessed by organizations previously formed, from whose mistakes every future society will be the gainer.

Such in brief is the history of the growth of the work in Newark, resulting in the establishment of an additional stronghold for Organized Charity, which, when freely translated, means a determined effort to discover every case of destitution, every haunt of vice, every vagabond man, woman and child, who can, but will not, work. To the first named a friendly and supporting hand will be extended, and suitable employment procured; but to the vicious and lazy only one dread alternative—work! either from choice or compulsion; work they must? and if not of their own option, then for the benefit of the country. No! There is one escape left—a rat deserts a sinking ship! Let us all hope that following in the lead of Philadelphia, Boston and Brooklyn, Newark may become a city abhorrent to the vicious, the lazy and the tramp.—Yours, etc,

J. S. MACKIE, Secy.

LETTER FROM THE DETROIT ASSOCIATION OF CHARITIES.

DETROIT, April, 1882.

Nearly all the churches and charitable institutions, of this city, are in active co-operation with the association, which now numbers nearly 500 members. The total receipts for the last fiscal year were \$2,648.50; expenditures, \$2,659.62. The city is divided into 9 Districts, in each of which there is a District Organization. Day Nurseries have been established in the eastern and western parts of the city, the usefulness of which have been amply demonstrated. The Employment Department has found temporary or permanent employment for 1,217 persons, the sexes being represented in nearly equal numbers. This is a very encouraging report, for the fiscal year, of the operations of the department. As in other cities, it is found that work is the last thing many applicants for relief desire.

THE PORTLAND ASSOCIATED CHARITIES have issued a paper bearing the motto: "To give without knowledge is folly. If you scatter on unfruitful ground, there will be no return for your labor but grief." The need of a Charity Building is strongly urged.

RAGS AND WASTE PAPER.—A crippled man, of excellent character, is struggling hard to maintain his family by collecting rags and waste paper. He has bravely preserved his independence for more than a year. Any household having small parcels of rags and waste paper, which will pay for the labor of gathering, or larger parcels which they will sell to him at moderate rates, will assist a worthy case by sending to the office of the REGISTER.

Bound volumes of the REGISTER, containing all the issues from November, 1879, to November, 1881, with full indexes of contents, may be had at the Central Office at cost price—ONE DOLLAR.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from F. B. SANBORN, Esq., of Massachusetts, on the "Care of Deserted Children and Foundlings.

I have seen the MONTHLY REGISTER for March, containing the paper on deserted children and foundlings, with the discussion following thereupon. The paper seems to me a very comprehensive and judicious one, though apparently not intended to furnish a complete system for this class of the public dependents. I judge so from the remark towards the close: "The foregoing is believed to embrace all the provisions that would be proper and safe to enter upon, *at this time*, in the care of foundlings or deserted children."*

Now, there is one very important provision, which our method of State supervision naturally furnishes. I mean the strict investigation in a legal and social point of view of the parentage of these infants, followed up by legal proceedings for affiliation and support by the responsible parent, when necessary. This is the part usually omitted in foundling asylums, religious hospitals and private charities generally, which deal with this very difficult subject. Even our Massachusetts Infant Asylum, which I regard as the best private charity of this kind which ever came to my knowledge, has shrunk a little from this part of its duty, and, but for the vigilance of the State authorities, would have considerably injured its usefulness thereby; and I should be apprehensive that the Philadelphia system, unless guarded hereafter by some such provision for tracing parentage, preventing collusion, and collecting board, would gradually expose itself to serious censure.

It will be understood, of course, that in this particular charity, much more than in ordinary almsgiving, the religious and humane duty of society comes into sharp collision with its economical and moral duty. A system for the care of foundling infants must, almost of necessity, in proportion to its excellence in other respects, open the door to those two great evils, positive vice and parental neglect, which in its worst form is infanticide. It, therefore, becomes absolutely essential to any good system, that it should guard most strictly against this result. Our Massachusetts' method, which is praised, and as we believe, very justly, was strongly opposed, on this ground, when we took the first steps towards it in 1866, and this opposition was only overcome by the two officials who were to have most to do in carrying out the new policy, giving strict personal pledges that we would see the cases carefully investigated and the bastardy laws properly enforced. Making allowance for all the changes of personal relation and official position which have taken place in sixteen years, the promise, on the whole, has been well kept. But, in spite of what has been done from the legal side, the extension of our system, made two years ago, though very beneficial in preserving infant life, has greatly increased the pressure upon this form of public charity, so that now we are more than ever troubled by the immigration from other States and countries, of women who have these infants to dispose of, or expect to have them. This has now become a serious burden upon our resources for disposing of these infants, and, of course, admonishes us sharply, that no means must be neglected of throwing the responsibility for the support of such infants where it properly belongs. We have the same confidence, as formerly, that our method is the right one; but its necessary evils force themselves upon our attention. We knew they were coming, and here they are.

There is another point connected with this subject, and touched upon in the discussion following the paper, in which a correction is necessary of what was said respecting the mortality of infants at our Tewksbury Almshouse. The reported words were: "Then, too, the mortality condemns the almshouse as an unfit place for children. Nothing that had been said about the death-rate in the Philadelphia Almshouse had surpassed what experience as a Visitor and Trustee of the Tewksbury Almshouse had revealed to her. The deaths among infants were between 90 and 100 per cent., and she determined to inquire into it."

Now, what was doubtless intended was, that the deaths among *motherless* infants were between 90 and 100 per cent.; for there never was a time, even under the worst medical management at Tewksbury, when the deaths among infants of all kinds, exceeded 50 per cent. To show you that this must have been so, let me refer you to some Mortality Tables in the Eleventh Report of the Board of State Charities, in one of those years when I was Chairman of the Board. These tables were prepared under my direction, and are not only the most complete but the only comprehensive tables of the kind ever made out; they cover twenty years at Tewksbury, and, although incomplete in some respects,

* In the paper referred to, it is overlooked by Mr. Sanborn that the Out-Door Agency of the Guardians of the Poor, in cases of bastardy, was pointed to by the writer as one of the factors engaged in this charity in Philadelphia, and that, further on in the paper, it was recommended that this agency should be associated in one building with certain other societies, whose immediate correspondence in this work was needed.

may be absolutely relied upon in others. These tables are found at the beginning of the appendix, pages 210-218, and they show that the whole number of deaths, of all ages, from one year to one hundred, in 21 years—1854-1874—was 4,716, of whom 1,625, or a little more than one-third, died under five years. By a note to page 215, you will see that the whole number of admissions of children under five, including births, was probably 4,000 in this whole period, of whom probably less than 3000 were infants under two; yet, if even 90 per cent. of 3000 had died, the deaths would have been 2700, instead of the actual number, 1625. Now, the actual deaths of motherless infants during this period, as appears by a table on page 218, was 447, which, deducted from 1625, leaves 1178 deaths of other children under five; and deducting 526, the whole number of motherless infants, from 4000, the probable number of children under five, leaves 3474. The actual percentage, then, of 1175 deaths to 3474 children would be just about 30, and making the proper allowance for the increased mortality of infants under two, it is probable that such infants with mothers in the almshouse, died at the rate of about 40 in 100, during the whole period of 21 years. This was far too large a death-rate, but nothing like what the reported remarks would imply.

I feel some concern upon this point, because it was from my repeated statements of the great mortality among motherless infants at Tewksbury, that the false impression seems to have got abroad that there was a similar death-rate among all the infants there. The error is much of the same nature as if I should have said, that nine-tenths of the one-legged Philadelphians wore wooden legs, and somebody should instantly have reported, and for a dozen years circulated the story, that nine-tenths of all the Philadelphians wore wooden legs; omitting the adjective which alone gave the calculation any veracity.

Yours truly,

F. B. SANBORN.

FOUNDLINGS AND DESERTED INFANTS.

In the care of foundlings and deserted infants, the system in Massachusetts and that of New York, the two centres in this country where the most thought and attention have been given to this Charity, are in striking contrast. In the latter, the expression is that of large institutional growth, while in Massachusetts this feature assumes but small proportions. The New York Foundling Asylum, (under the Sisters of Charity,) The Nursery and Child's Hospital, and the New York Infant Asylum, have (especially the two former,) magnificent establishments, with a combined capacity for over 3,000 inmates. In Massachusetts, on the other hand, the institutional capacity is less than 100, where the practice of distributing the infants into family homes has so largely obtained. The Massachusetts system has already been described in the REGISTER for March, while the Nursery and Child's Hospital, as a type of the methods of New York, is fully given in the description of that Society in the present number of the REGISTER. These institutions in New York are admirable in construction and appointments, as well as in their management. It is regretted that space will not permit of a statement here of the methods of the other institutions named above; it may, however, be mentioned that in the Foundling Asylum, under the Sisters of Charity, besides an internal accommodation for over 1,000 children, infants are boarded out in large numbers through the city of New York, at a payment of from \$5 to \$10 per month—and the same practice exists in Philadelphia, under the Sisters of Charity at the St. Vincent Home for Destitute Infants. In addition to the supervision exercised by the Sisters, the nurses with whom the children are boarded, are obliged to report in person, with the child, at the Asylum monthly. In New York, a detective agent is employed, whose duty it is to visit, at unexpected times, the homes where the children are placed; there is also an arrangement with the Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul, through whose Visitors weekly visits are made among the children that are boarded out within their respective parishes. Large numbers of children are retained within the asylum until about 4 years of age, when they are placed out with families in our western States by a special agent, upon a similar system to that of Mr. Brace, of the Children's Aid Society. The sanitary conditions of the asylum are very fine, and the condition of the children is remarkably good. It should also be noted that the hospital is in a detached building, and that the Maternity Wards are in a separate structure recently erected.

From our standpoint in Pennsylvania, where the policy is to give very sparingly from the public treasury and to leave the support of charitable enterprises mainly in private hands, it should be borne in mind, while upon the question of adoption of methods in Philadelphia, that the policy of New York is in the opposite direction, in a very marked

degree. The public per capita allowance, 38 cents per day or \$138.70 per year for each infant, is a very liberal one, and, therefore, admits of their costly establishment and administration. (The expenditures in the Report of the Foundling Asylum for the year ending September 30, 1880, amount to \$236,014.91.) It is through this fact, (apart from the devoted and able management,) in a great measure, that such extended and responsible work undertaken by these New York institutions is maintained with favorable results, from a sanitary standpoint, that could not be expected here upon the ordinary standard of voluntary contributions. Members of the State Board of Charities of New York censure this policy, and are of the opinion that pauperizing effects have been largely induced by the too liberal public support now given to New York charitable institutions. They say that it is very rapidly increasing the institutional life in the community, and they further urge that in thus usurping too much the place of voluntary contributions, there is a withdrawal of the wholesome restrictive discrimination which is invited by the difficulties of maintenance under private Charity.

The writer is familiar with the Charities of New York City and State, and has more than once visited the institutions in question; and while admiring the charitable enterprise and the advanced movement so marked throughout their charitable system, is impressed with the truth of the reflections made by the New York State Board. Pennsylvania, while too niggardly in this respect, it is believed, errs on the safer side. In verification of this criticism, it may be well to examine the exhibit given in the detailed and admirably rendered report of the Nursery and Child's Hospital of New York. No Society, it should be said, has been more faithful and conscientious in the discharge of its great work, or more scrupulous in reporting its stewardship. Now, the immense growth of this Society, on the one hand, as well as the financial statement, seem to confirm these conclusions. In the last published report of the Society, after an existence of nearly 30 years, it appears that subscribers have not been enlisted, except to a very inconsiderable extent, and that the reliance on the public bounty has had the effect, also, of preventing the bequeathment of legacies. The statement shows an income of \$140,000, all derived from the public Treasury, with the exception of \$22,083.86 obtained from payments of inmates and other sources. In this amount, besides a balance of over \$9,000, investments, also, of over \$21,000 during the year have been made, apparently from surplus revenue, while building improvements and repairs have been paid for at the same time, to the extent of about \$6,000.

The criticism of the State Board upon the public policy of support may equally apply to this institution, on the ground of too liberal admissions, and of a too prolonged residence of its beneficiaries. Giving due consideration to the plea that time is needed for the moral influence that should be gained over many of the women under its charge, it may be urged that the term of residence deemed essential by the management is, in a great majority of cases, far too long. Such continuance of residence engenders indolence of disposition, which the employment afforded in the house, with so large a number of such inmates, cannot but be entirely insufficient to counteract. The provision is over-indulgent, and might tend to induce desertion by husbands or fathers; so liberal and public a provision being open would lessen their sense of individual responsibility. With the children, it would appear that the placing-out should be during the age of infancy, according to the French and Massachusetts practice. Whereas the custom is to retain the children until 5 years of age, when they are boarded at \$10 a month. This, also, seems a too liberal payment.

There is the consideration involved in the question of State allowance that should be added as one of much weight, namely: That the dependence on this support is unreliable, and that the public policy, in this regard, may be suddenly altered, either by a change of political parties or through a public demand for economy and retrenchment. In view of the accumulated evidence of the manifold difficulties attending this branch of charitable provision, it would appear that the proposed Children's Bureau would serve as the proper centre or medium to bring into suitable relation the existing agencies in our city, both public and private, as might be indicated in the requirements of each case, and for the development of the subject, as time and experience may direct. The association of the following Societies in one building, as suggested in the paper presented in the March REGISTER, would be obviously of great advantage, viz.: The Society for Organizing Charity, The Society to Protect Children from Cruelty, The Children's Bureau, the Children's Aid, The Out-Door Agency of the Guardians of the Poor in Cases of Bastardy, the Office of the House of Refuge, the Office of the Prison Agent, The State Board of Charities and The Children's Country Week Association.

NOTES.

THE HON. AND REV. CANON FREMANTLE, speaking on the importance of dissociating relief from pastoral visiting, strenuously maintained that the effect of giving relief at such visits is very pernicious. It induces the poor to expect pecuniary aid from those who visit them, and they are induced to practice a kind of hypocrisy, either consciously or unconsciously. Moreover, all the grace and all the religious advantage of the visit are apt to be lost, because the minds of both parties are engrossed in the question whether, at the close of the visit, relief shall or shall not be given. This begets constraint on both sides, and prevents sincere and frank communication, either directly on religion or other parts of church work. The Visitor should be able to say to everyone, of whose distress he becomes aware, "It is against the rules for me to give; but if you go to so-and-so, at such a place and hour, the matter will be carefully looked into, and whatever seems best will be done;" and, in the case of the sick or disabled, the Visitor himself might make the application.

The great advantage of correspondence between all Charity Organization Societies the world over is well illustrated by the following communication from the Society at New-Castle-upon-Tyne, England, dated March 17th, 1882, referring to *Case No. 112*, reported in the REGISTER for February last.

"We are glad to inform you that Mrs. — and her children left on — for Philadelphia, her husband having sent the money for her passage. We owe very much to your good and prompt action in this matter, and assure you that you were instrumental in relieving very great misery and privation. We beg you will accept our very hearty thanks, and our assurance that we shall at all times be ready to co-operate with you and if possible assist you here. We observe your notice of the above case in your publication, and know that you will be pleased by the gratifying sequel."

CASES.

Case No. 116—An adult deaf mute, in the employment of a drover from Texas, after the sale of cattle in this city, was left by his employer without his pay and his return passage as promised. The man was in great distress, and in a helpless condition. The facts being ascertained, transportation was supplied to New York, and two days afterwards he was shipped to his home in Texas.

Case No. 117—A very respectable woman, deserted by her husband and dying with consumption, was in great anxiety for the care of her two small children. The children have been very well placed with the family of a friend, on a farm in Centre County, through the Children's Aid Association, under the care of Mrs. E. A. Ponceon. Payment was made for the care of the children, for a number of days, in the St. Mary Street Day Nursery, and for their subsequent transportation. The dying mother is greatly relieved thereby, and has written a letter of touching gratitude to our Visitor.

Case No. 118—A lady of wealth was solicited by a letter-writing impostor, for money to go to Chicago. He presented an adroitly written and alleged copy of a letter offering him a situation as druggist clerk, in Chicago. Consultation of a directory of that town showed that there was no such druggist, and the man, when asked, was unable to produce the original letter. The wife, who seems to be a deserving person, is supplied with employment in the shirt-making department. Others to whom he had addressed similar letters have been informed of his impositions.

Case No. 119—A short time since, a young colored man applied to our 4th Ward Superintendent, and told him he was in great distress; he had no work, his wife was sick, having just been confined, and they had nothing to eat, except what the neighbors gave them. The Superintendent investigated the case, and found the facts as stated, and relieved them. Shortly after, the man was taken sick and died, as also did the child. During his sickness it transpired that he had spent \$1200 to \$1500, left him by his father, in playing "policy," and that his condition was entirely owing to his infatuation. He had brought himself and family to beggary, want and death, by his indulgence in that vice.

Case No. 120—A woman advertised for a baby to board. In answer to the advertisement the mother of a baby three months old brought it, and agreed to pay her three dollars per week for its board, alleging that she had to go out to work and could not take care of it. She paid the first week's board, and gave her address, which proved to be false. The woman after waiting four weeks, and being unable to keep it without remuneration applied to one of our Ward Superintendents, who after due investigation, procured the child's admission to the Sheltering Arms.

Case No. 121—A young woman having two children, one two years and the other eight months old, and being very sick herself (sickness probably induced by the neglect and brutality of an intemperate husband,) applied to the Ward Superintendent for aid. She was compelled to leave her husband and go to her mother to die, and as the mother was herself poor and unable to support them, she applied at the Ward Office. The oldest child was received in the Friends' Home. The youngest being very sick was removed to the Homœopathic Hospital, 45th and Oregon, where it died. She herself died about 16 days after her baby, and the Ward Association furnished the funds to pay funeral expenses.

Case No. 122—A colored man and his wife, both active and strong, aged respectively 40 and 35 years, applied to the Ward Office for relief as the man was out of work and they were in need of coal and groceries. Upon investigation it was discovered that they were receiving aid from both the Union Benevolent Association and the Home Missionary Society. As the husband was out of employment, the Superintendent proposed to him to go work in the wood yard, when he became very indignant and berated him soundly, saying that if he could not give relief without working for it he did not want him to come near the house. The case was referred back to the above named Societies with the above report.

